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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 16TH JUNE.

THE MANCHESTER EXAMINER AND TIMES makes the following remarks upon the petition of the British Indian Association to Parliament regarding the cost of the Affghan war:

In Calcutta there is a society called the "British Indian Association." It is composed exclusively of native gentlemen, and has been in existence for more than a quarter of a century, its object being, by all lawful and constitutional means, to make known to the ruling authorities "the wants, wishes, opinions, and feelings" of the people of India. The Committee of the Association have lately presented a petition to Parliament begging for a reconsideration of the recent decision by which India is to be charged with the costs of the Affghan war. Twenty-nine signatures are attached to the petition, and there can be no doubt that they represent a vast body of influential native opinion. The petitioners observe, with a plaintiveness to which we ought not to be insensible, that they have no voice in Parliament, and no voice in the administration of their revenues, but they "enjoy the dearly-prized right of petition, and in the exercise of that right they with due submission crave for justice." We conceive that we also have a duty to discharge, which is to take care that so far as our power extends the substance of this petition shall be made known to the English public. In the discharge of this duty we ask our readers to listen to what these Indian gentlemen have to say.

They say first, not without a touch of irony, that they have always abstained from discussing the political relations of the British Government with Asiatic States, on the supposition that such relations involve international questions which may be considered to lie beyond the reach of a "subject people." Acting on this principle they forbear from saying anything as to the justice or the expediency of the war we are now waging with the Ameer of Cabul. It is enough for them to declare that as loyal subjects they rejoice in the success of our arms, convinced that whatever adds to the strength and glory of England will be also for their advantage. But there is one question connected with this war, they tell us, in which the taxpayers of India are deeply concerned, and that is the way in which its expenses are to be defrayed, and they cannot but demur to the justice of the proposal that those expenses shall be charged upon the Indian revenue. In support of this protest they remind us that though India forms a part of "the great British Empire," in all that regards the administration of its affairs, the regulation of its finances, and the purposes to which its revenues shall be applied, it occupies the position of a distinct State. Moreover, it is a State which has never cost us anything. India paid us the entire cost of conquering it. All our wars in India have been defrayed out of the revenue of India. England bears the whole cost of its colonial wars. The war in Zululand, though they do not mention it, is a case in point. It is expected to cost ten millions, and every farthing of this sum will be taken out of our pockets. But if we have to make war in India to put down any native State we make India pay for it. "India constitutes the brightest jewel in the British diadem." It is not only the brightest but the cheapest, for we got it for nothing. The petitioners do not complain of this. On the contrary, they say that India will always be ready to bear her own burdens; all that "she humbly craves for is fair play." With respect to the Affghan war, though they will not discuss the policy which led to it, they know enough of its character to be able to declare that it was not undertaken to prevent or repel an actual invasion, and that it therefore does not fall among those contingencies for which India is presumably chargeable. On this point they quote with triumph the all-sufficing testimony of Lord Lytton, who declared that "the Central Asian question is not an Indian but a European question, and the still more emphatic assertion of Lord Beaconsfield that it is "a question which concerns the character and influence of England in Europe. On the strength of these admissions, our petitioners demand with irresistible cogency why India should be made exclusively chargeable with the cost of settling a European question, or of maintaining the influence of England in Europe. Our own burdens, say they, we are willing to take upon our own shoulders, but this is your own burden. The object of the war, on the testimony of your own Premier, is to maintain your own ascendancy and your own renown. Anticipating the objection that, since England and India are indissolubly united, whatever tells to the benefit of England tells also to the benefit of India, they say that on such a principle we might force them to defray the cost of all the wars in which we happen to engage in every part of the world. More especially do the great Eastern questions of Europe centre in India, so that, if India is to bear the cost of maintaining England's ascendancy in the East, it is difficult, they observe, to see where the line of distinction between the Imperial and the Indian treasuries is to be drawn.

What we have stated comprises the political grounds of their remonstrance. They proceed to draw still more cogent arguments in support of their protest from the poverty of India. Having shown that they ought not to be called to pay for a war in which they have not the chief concern, they go on to show that they are not able to pay for it, that is not unless they are to be weighed and pressed down with an intolerable load of taxation. They observe that it is generally believed in England that India is rich, whereas the truth is that India is poor. The people of India are not only poor, but "exceedingly poor; they live from hand to mouth; the bulk of the agricultural population are deeply involved in debt. Some of the old industries have died out in consequence of foreign competition, and those who used to be dependent upon them have been turned adrift." The rise in the price of provisions presses upon all classes, and an enormous proportion of the population are always living on the brink of starvation. Can it be just for the wealthiest nation in the world to throw upon these impoverished millions the costs of a war engaged in for the maintenance of its ascendancy in the East, for the prosecution of its assaults upon the power of Russia? Are we so poor as to be obliged to make the starving people of India pay the cost of our own glory? The recent famine in India induced the Government to impose additional taxes with a view to make a provision against future famines. The burden was submitted to as a sad necessity, though it obliged the people of Madras to pay an increase of 50 per cent on the salt duty, imposed upon one of the necessaries of life. By these extra taxes a surplus has been raised to serve as a sort of poor law fund, an investment against disaster. Alas, the danger is that this insurance fund will be swept into the gulf of war expenditure, and the money raised for feeding the poor in future famines be applied to military operations which by Lord Beaconsfield's admission "concern the character and influence of England in Europe. We need dwell no longer on this painfully interesting document. We only trust that those of the public whom we reach will lay to heart the remonstrances addressed to them by their brethren in India, and will do everything in their power to prevent the Government of Lord Beaconsfield from burdening the national reputation with this policy of rapacity and meanness.

The extract is long but will amply repay perusal. It is some satisfaction to see that even the Provincial Press of England is devoting leading articles to Indian subjects.

THE FRENCH MINISTER of Commerce has declared that the application of the principle of international exchanges is only possible with reciprocity, and that France cannot be expected to open the ports on her frontiers to countries which close theirs against her.

EXTRAVAGANCE at funerals seems to be as common in England as extravagance at shrads in Bengal. A meeting was held at Manchester at which the following Resolution was passed: "That this meeting, believing that unnecessary expense and formality has become customary at funerals, pledges itself to the reforms advocated by the Rochdale Funeral Reforms Association." We wish extravagance at shrads and marriage ceremonies may be speedily put an end to in this country.

SIR CECIL BEADON presided at the last half-yearly meeting of the Eastern Bengal Railway Company. Sir Cecil explained that the falling off in rice was solely attributable to the fact that in the second half of 1877 they had to export a large quantity of rice from Calcutta for the distressed districts in the Madras Presidency suffering from the famine, and that the falling-off in seeds was entirely owing to the depression of trade, as was also the diminution in the jute traffic. The company's liabilities to the Government and on account of projected capital expenditure during the current half-year was stated in round numbers at about £150,000, to provide for which the directors have raised that amount on debenture loan at par at four per cent. Some dissatisfaction was expressed at the meeting at the working of the Northern Bengal Railway. Half the gross earnings of that railway have to be given to the Government and the other half goes to the company, and the takings in the half-year did not meet the expenses by £350. However, it was explained by the directors that they had worked the Northern Bengal Railway for only six months, and they could not yet judge from the results what the traffic would be in the future. The arrangement is from year to year, and if the company's agent does not find it suitable, representations to that effect will be made to the Government. A dividend of 1½ per cent in addition to the guaranteed interest was declared.

MR. ARTHUR DAVENPORT, the British Consul at Shanghai, comes forward to say a word in defence of Manchester's supply of heavily sized goods for the Eastern market. With most significant frankness he says: "It pays better to adulterate than to be honest. Nobody is hoodwinked in this matter. For an 8lb shirting made of 8lb of good honest cotton, which British manufacturers would be only too pleased to weave, Chinamen will not give a fair price; they will give a proportionately better price for 5lb of cotton and 3lb of China clay and size. Not being philanthropists, but men working for a living, manufacturers naturally weave and sell the latter. The Chinese themselves are as much to blame in the matter as the manufacturers and warehousemen are. American manufacturers have as yet steadily set their faces against sizing, facing and other abominations, but they do not know the Eastern market yet, and if the trade in honest cottons does not show better results in the future than it has in the past, they must eventually have to suit their stuffs to the prices Chinamen will pay, or take their goods to another market." This is tantamount to saying that if dishonesty pays, why give it up!

TUESDAY, 17TH JUNE.

BOSTON has 825 doctors—about one to every 425 persons, and the ratio of physicians to population is about the same in the suburbs, with the exception of Brookline, where there is one doctor to every 800 inhabitants. How often do people in Boston get sick! This redundancy of doctors in a city is a social evil of grave magnitude.

THE *Norfolk County Gazette*, which has been forwarded to us by a friend, contains a powerful article against vaccination. The writer, Mr. Giles, gives extracts of the opinions of several eminent medical men some of which we give below. Professor Newman thus writes to the *Vaccination Enquirer and Health Review* in 1879:

"To infuse into our children's blood, corrupt matter in which no physician on earth can know or guess what evil may lurk, is simply infatuation. Tampering with the blood is an abomination. To recommend it is enough to lay low the credit of any medical man. To command it is a gross usurpation in a legislative body. So long as our bodies are healthy Parliament has no right to command *assault* upon them under the pretext of public health. To punish parents for struggling to keep their children's blood inviolate is a form of tyranny unheard of until modern times, and is as emphatically disgraceful as it is impious!"

DR. E. HAUGHTON of Penge, England, in *The Anti-Compulsory Vaccinatian Reporter* for April, 1877, states, that he has given attention to the subject of vaccination as a special study for about 15 years, and thus states his reasons for opposing it:

1st—"It cannot be shown that the laws for the enforcement of vaccination, have ever saved life, and there is good reason to believe that *they have much increased the rate of infant mortality.*" 2nd.—"It is *unreasonable* to offer a *doubtful* protection from a single disease, to which we may never be exposed, and at the same time oblige every human being to run the risk of being inoculated with loathsome diseases." 3d—It is *cruel and unjust* to inflict an injury for which no compensation is made, and for which in many cases no adequate compensation is possible." 4th.—"It is absurd for me to say that I have a nostrum (i. e. vaccination) which protects me and yet that I am afraid that my neighbour will infect me with small-pox because he has not been vaccinated.—5th.—"It is *impious* to impugn the creation of God and to declare that children who have not been artificially diseased, are unfit to attend school or mingle with their fellow creatures.—6th.—It is *murderous* to do that which can be proved to increase the death rate even though it could be proved to be attended with some individual advantage to the persons who practise it.

Professor Ennemoser of Munich thus gives his opinion on vaccination:

A more infernal mystification the world has never experienced since its existence. It is certainly not to be comprehended how a poison in the organism can be extinguished by a similar poison.

Professor Bock of Leipsic, writes:

"I have in a forty years practice seen far more evil than good from vaccination and therefore vaccinated my own children only in their third and fourth years when they were hearty and strong. *But I would never have vaccinated them but for an indirect compulsion.*

Professor Kranichfield of Berlin remarks:

"I too have vaccinated my fourteen children at a time *when I did not know how injurious it was.* To-day I would resist the authorities and the police law.

Dr. Wilder, Professor of the United States Medical College in New York, says:

"Vaccination is physically and morally wrong and its advocates are inferiorly conscious of it; or else they (meaning such as hold to its legal enforcement) would trust to argument and conviction.

"Consumption follows in the footsteps of vaccination as certainly and as unequivocally as an effect follows a cause. Wherever it is common to vaccinate scrofula and tuberculosis are general. We have no right to expect otherwise. "In Massachusetts, where great pains are taken to disseminate the terrible poison consumption appears to be a perpetual epidemic.

Who shall decide when doctors disagree?

A GREAT EDUCATIONAL REFORM is contemplated in France. The Minister of Public Instruction well supported by the entire Government, is determined that laymen shall take the place of priests in the elementary schools of the nation.

A DR. ROBERT D'UNGER of Chicago who claims to have actually cured 2,800 cases of the worst forms of intemperance has discovered the following cure for drunkenness. Take a pound of the best quil red Peruvian bark (*cinchona rubra*), powder it, and soak it in a pint of diluted alcohol; strain and evaporate it down to a half pint; give a tea-spoonful every three hours at first, and reduce the dose gradually to five drops.

WE LEARN from the Shanghai papers that the Viceroy of Chihli Li-Hung-Chang has sanctioned the construction of the first telegraphic line in China for the transmission of public messages. The line is to be between Taku and Tientsien, and will be 40 miles long.

WEDNESDAY, 18TH JUNE.

WORK AND LONGEVITY.—An American paper culls the following examples from the lives of British Prime Ministers: Since 1800 there have been 18 Premiers, and one remarkable characteristic about them is that they are peculiarly long-lived. Mr Spencer Percival was assassinated at the age of 50, and Sir Robert Peel died in consequence of a fall from his horse at the age of 62. Pitt is an exception to the rule as he died at 46, and Canning only reached 57. Lord Beaconsfield was 74 last month, and Mr. Gladstone is past 70; and the remaining 12 who have held office since 1800 average over 75 years of age, though the average is much decreased by Lord Liverpool, who died, at 58. Lord Sidmouth, who quitted office as Premier in 1804, died, at 87 in 1844. Lord Granville left office in 1807, and died aged 75, in 1834. The Duke of Portland died at 71. Viscount Goderich resigned office in January, 1828, and died in 1859, aged 67. The Duke of Wellington quitted office in November 1830, and died in 1852, aged 83. Earl Grey left office in 1834, and died in 1845, aged 81. Viscount Melborne left office, the second term of tenure, September, 1841, and died, aged 69, in 1848. Earl Russell resigned the Premiership last in July, 1866, and died in 1877, aged 85. Lord Derby was last in office in June, 1859, and died in 1869, aged 70. The Earl of Aberdeen resigned office in February, 1855, and died at the age of 76, in 1860. Viscount Palmerston died in office in November, 1865, aged 81. Thus, although Prime Ministers work hard and, no doubt, endure much worry, it seems clear that neither work nor worry, destroys them prematurely.

THE PIONEER says:

The Financial Department observes, with a low cunning that is simply revolting: "Defaced coins should be remitted as largely as possible for expenditure beyond the frontier." Is this, then, the only way of paying Yakoob Khan his subsidy? Is not Sir John Strachey, the *Pi's* idol, the head of the Financial Department?

THE INDIAN TRIBUNE in an article on European politicals quotes the following opinion of Lord Mayo on the subject: "As a rule, I am totally opposed to sending European 'politicals' to any Asiatic town, if it can be avoided. They are a dangerous class, and many a misfortune can be traced to their honest but misplaced activity." Quite true.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of a contemporary has the following:

A rather lively scene took place in the German Reichstag the other day, when Herr Lasker attacked the new Tariff Bill in a pungent and able speech, during which he accused Prince Bismarck of ignorance of the laws of the country, of endeavouring to raise up strife between the town and country populations, and of altogether endeavouring to carry his protectionist policy by greatly exaggerated statements. The President was in vain appealed to to help the Prince. The statements of Herr Lasker were undoubtedly strong; but he could not say that they were un-Parliamentary. Thereupon Prince Bismarck, who had been leaning against a pillar, raised himself to his full height, and tauntingly told the President that while he would not dispute his decision, he could not quite agree with it. He was himself President of the Federal Council, and therefore ought to know. He repelled the accusation of being ignorant of the laws of his country, and suggested that at least he knew something of the laws of politeness; rebuked Herr Lasker for introducing personal matters into the debate; declared that all he wanted was to introduce the principles of the old Zollverein; spoke feelingly of the farmers: averred the necessity of protecting native industry; and—as the reporter adds—walked majestically out of the House.

AN EXHIBITION of the fishing productions of seas, rivers and ponds throughout the world, and of the appliances used in fishing, will be held at Berlin commencing in April 1880. A similar exhibition in Bengal would be useful.

THE FIRST instalment of Professor Max Muller's "Sacred Books of the East" will shortly appear. The first volume contains a translation of the Upanishads by the Editor; the second, the Shu King, Shih King, and Hsiao King, translated by Professor Legge; the third, the Sacred Laws of the Aryas, translated by Dr. George Buhler, of Bombay.

WE BEG to draw attention to a notice of the postal department in another column notifying that the postal card system comes into operation on the first day of July. The Foreign Post Cards bearing stamps of the value of 1½ anna each will be generally available from that date. Particular attention is drawn to the foot-note in the Schedule of Rates concerning Post Cards intended for transmission, *via* Brindisi, to the effect that the ratec t 2 annas *via Brindisi* must be made up by attaching a half-anna adhesive stamp to the Foreign Post-Card.

THURSDAY, 19TH JUNE.

A CORRESPONDENT from a station on the N. B. S. Railway says that owing to the absence of timely rain and scanty falls of late there is a wail of distress all over the country. Rice of indifferent quality is selling at 12 kucha seers or 9 ordinary seers per rupee. He hopes that in the rage for retrenchment the Government will spare poor clerks.

OUR CORRESPONDENT at Ghattal complains of a serious hardship, which has been inflicted upon the local public by doubling up the appointment of two officers in one person. The sub-divisional lock-up was in charge of the Court Sub-Inspector, it has under a recent Government order been assigned to the Civil Hospital Assistant in charge of the Charitable Dispensary. The result is the Doctor has very little time to attend to his legitimate work. The arrangement amounts to a denial of medical relief to the outside public.

THE POLITICAL AGENT at Bagdad reports that intimation has been given of the probable intention of the Turkish Government to prohibit the exportation of dates from Bagdad, as the crop there is very deficient this year.

A CORRESPONDENT thus comments on our first article on Reform and Retrenchment:

I have carefully read the 1st article headed "Reform and Retrenchment" in the *Patriot* of the 9th instant anent which I have a few words to say. Since Sir Andrew Clarke's accession to office the P. W. D. has actually gone from bad to worse. For example I will just cite a few instances by way of illustration. Previously the Departmental Code used to have been revised every fourth year—all addenda &c., were published half yearly under the designation of "Standing orders." In summer, April of 1875, Major J P. Steel R. E. had been appointed on special duty with the Government of India to revise the Code which consists of 20 chapters extending over 400 pages of octavo size of the type in which the leaders are given in the *Patriot*. The amount of matter that has to be inserted may be roughly taken to extend to nearly 100 *of such pages*. You will be surprised to learn that this much work could not be done within this time. You can at leisure calculate the cost of the revision of this Code!!

You may remember that the great thing done by Sir Andrew to justify his appointment and salary is that he changed the name of "Controller of P. W. Accounts" to "*Examiner of P. W. Accounts*"!!!

I cite these only as illustrations of the inactivity of the P. W. D. *Many more may be cited if necessary.*

If there existed any necessity for the appointment of a P. W. Minister the necessity has since ceased to exist. Transfer of responsibility in the disposal and management of all Provincial Funds from the Government of India—increased powers given to Local Governments and Administrations in respect to appointments and promotions of Executive officers as laid down in the India Resolution of 10th September 1874, and the increased powers lately given to the Accountant General P. W. D., with respect to the same regarding the Accounts officers and Subordinates have left much less work in the hands of the Government of India than before. In no other Department of the Government of India you will find so many officers as in the P. W. D. At the latter end of 1876 and in 1877 you gave good many leaders on the subject, so I stop here.

EXPRESSIONS of regret, condolence, and sympathy with the son and family of His Highness the late Maharaja of Vizianagram K. C. S. I. have been received from the following illustrious and noble personages, some by telegram and some by letter:

His Royal Highness Prince of Wales (through His Royal Highness Private Secretary)
His Excellency the Viceroy (through H E's. Private Secretary)
His Grace the Duke of Buckingham.
Honorable D. F. Carmichael.
Lieutenant Governor of Bengal.
His Majesty King of Siam.
His Highness Moharajah Holkar.
ditto ditto Jaypore.
ditto ditto Bhurtpore.
ditto ditto Travancore.
ditto ditto Puttyalla.
ditto ditto Burdwan
ditto ditto Bulrampore.
ditto ditto Doomraon.
ditto ditto Benares.
ditto ditto Mysore.
ditto Prince of Arcot.
Sir Salar Jung Bahadur.
General Jaggut Jung Bahadur.
Rajah Sir T Madhava Row.
The Commissioner of Benares, &c &c, and numerous private friends.

WE CONGRATULATE Babu Ramdas Sen of Berhampore on his election as an honorary member of the Academy of Florence. He has received a diploma with a letter of appointment from Professor Gubernates, Secretary to the Society. The Society has also conferred upon him the title of "Doctor."

A CORRESPONDENT at Selebai in Assam contradicts the "salaam case" reported in a recent issue of this journal. He says that he knows Mr. Brown personally, that he is an excellent gentleman and incapable of the conduct imputed to him. The correspondent adds that the sub-overseer has been dismissed for other and valid reasons. If we have been imposed upon, we can only express our regret, and know how to deal with the correspondent, who has thus misled us, when he writes again to us.

FRIDAY, 20TH JUNE.

THE REDISTRIBUTION of the jurisdiction of the districts of Burdwan, Bankura, Hughli, Midnapur, Murshidabad, Birbhum and Manbhum which had been referred to a Committee presided over by Mr. C. T. Buckland, has at last been effected. It is now finally settled that the thanas of Sunamuki, Kutolpur and Indos are to be transferred from Burdwan to Bankura, and Supul and Raipur are to be added to Bankura from Manbhum. There will be a new sub-division at Bishenpur in Bankura. Thana Jehanabad, and some others are to be transferred from Burdwan to Hughli, with a new sub-division at Ulubaria. Thanahs Rampur Hat and others will be transferred from Murshidabad to Birbhum. The old sub-division of Kandi is to be reconstituted. Two thanas from Midnapur on the Ghatal side are to be transferred to Hughli. The sub-division of Bud-Bud is to be abolished. This measure redresses the wrong done by the geographical mania of Sir George Campbell.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA has santioned the constitution of Pabna and Bogra into a separate Civil and Sessions district, to be removed from the jurisdiction of the District and Sessions Judges and the Subordinate Judges of Rajshahye and Rangpur respectively, and to be formed into a new District Judgeship and Sessions Division with head-quarters at Pabna. The Sessions Court will sit for the trial of sessions cases arising in the District Magistracy of Bogra at Bogra, which place has been approved of by the High Court.

WE LEARN from the weather reports of the Bengal districts for the week ending the 11th instant that more rain was wanted in the greater part of the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions, whilst in parts of the Rajshahi and Dhaka divisions the crops on the low lands had suffered from floods. In Chittagong prospects are generally good, but throughout the Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions, except in Champarun and Purnea, more rain is said to be urgently wanted. In Orissa the crops are doing well, except in Balasore, where the want of more rain is severely felt, as it is also throughout the greater part of Chutia Nagpur.

THE BANK OF BENGAL reduced the rate of interest one per cent. yesterday, which now stands at 6 per cent.

IT IS stated that General Thuillier, late Surveyor General of India, has been made a Knight.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the *Indian Daily News* writes:

When your late Lieutenant-Governor rose to address the House, there were, I may tell you exactly *four* members present to listen to his remarks, and one of these—M. Stanhope—was of course compelled to be in the House by virtue of his official duty! Three M Ps. only, therefore, voluntarily listened to Sir George Campbell. The smallness of his audience, however, in no wise daunted Sir George, for he spoke for very nearly two hours, his speech being left practically unreported by the London newspapers. During the time when Mr. Onslow, Mr. Grant Duff, and Mr. Sidebottom were speaking, the House remained almost empty, but when Mr. Lowe Lord George Hamilton were addressing the House, there was a goodly number of M.Ps. present.

This is the way India is treated in the House of Commons.

A NEW social party has been invented in England. The same writer says:

Upon the evening of this day week there was, I learn, a "smoking party" at the Duke of Edinburgh's town residence, Clarence House, at which not a few eminent men were present. The number of "smoking parties," indeed, which are now being given here, is very large; the cards marked "smoke and a talk" being now very fashionable. These kinds of entertainments have certainly one great advantage in these present "hard times; they cost their givers almost nothing!

Smoking is better than drinking.

THE FOLLOWING notices of motion in the House of Commons were recorded before the last mail had left England:

Sir David Wedderburn on the second reading of the East India Loan (£5,000,000) Bill, "That a free and authoritative expression of the wishes and requirements of Indian tax-payers would be of the greatest value to Parliament, as well as to the Government of India, and it is desirable that native representatives from the principal centres of population should be admitted into the Indian Legislative Councils, and should have afforded to them full opportunities for discussing the financial propositions of the Government.

Mr. Fawcett: On the second reading of the bill for the purpose of advancing £2,000,000, free of interest, to India, to move a resolution condemning the proportion in which it is proposed to distribute between England and India the expense of the Afghan war.

Mr. Bright, on the re-assembling of Parliament after the Whitsuntide holidays, to move an address to the Crown for a return of the number of persons receiving salaries, pensions, pay, fees, emoluments, allowances, or grants of public money in the year 1878 from the revenues of Her Majesty's possessions in India, the amount of which is not less than £100 each person; stating the number of persons in classes, the rates of salary or other payments to each class, and the total amount in each class distinguishing the sources from which the payments are made, and the aggregate of the whole, and arranging the names alphabetically in each class; distinguishing also and placing separately the natives of India from Europeans, and stating which persons during the year were not resident in India.

SATURDAY, 21ST JUNE.

WE ARE exceedingly sorry to record the death of Raja Bissessur Mallia, zemindar, Searsole, who has fallen a victim to cholera. A correspondent sends us the following lines about the lamented deceased:

This melancholy event has filled with deep grief all classes of the people of the Raneegunge Sub-division, especially the poor to whom he was more than a father. The Raja possessed many excellent qualities; he was kind, affable, benevolent and of an amiable disposition. His charity is well known to the public to require mention here. The signal

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service he rendered to his starving countrymen during the famine of 1874, not only endeared him to the community at large in which he moved but was recognized by the Government. He was a great athlete and skilled sportsman. We heartily sympathize with his mother Moharanee Harashundaree Debi and the rest of the family for this sad bereavement.

There is a regular epidemic of cholera raging in Raneegunge. Some friends, who came down this day, inform us that on Thursday there were 85 cases of cholera, and that the deaths exceeded 50 per cent.

A CORRESPONDENT thus writes from Mukseedpore in the district of Furreedpore, under date the 19th instant:

Wide-spread distress is prevailing throughout this district owing to the high price of rice, which is selling here at Rs. 5 a maund.

An unusual drought, succeeded by sudden floods and excessive downpour of rain, has destroyed both the *Bora* and *aus* crops, and blighted all hopes for the next *aman* crop. This disaster aggravated by the prevailing high price of rice has spread a panic, as it were, amongst the poor. Mr. Jeffery, the Magistrate of Furreedpore, has directed all the Police officers to make it widely known that all persons suffering from distress shall be supplied with food if they will work on the roads proposed to be made for the relief of the poor. This notification is a sufficient proof of the humane nature of our kind-hearted Magistrate. But it will not do much towards the relief of the really distressed. For the really distressed are—(as you have said.)—"the poor middle class, who cannot make the two ends meet in these days of high price with their fixed income." These men prefer starvation to working on the roads for the maintenance of themselves and their family. The actual cultivators of land are generally better off than the poor middle class men with their small fixed income.

HIS HIGHNESS the Prince of Arcot is dead. In 1867, on the understanding that the late Prince would abandon his claim to the throne of the Carnatic, certain important concessions were made to him. He received, as a contemporary says, the hereditary title of "Prince of Arcot" by letters patent from Her Majesty; his stipend was raised from £15,000 to £30,000 per annum for his life, one-half of the latter sum having been settled in perpetuity on his lineal male descendants in shares, according to their age and position, and an immediate sum of Rs. 170,000 was granted for the payment of his debts. He was about 79 years of age.

THE RUMPA Dacoits in Madras are giving in, and the gangs of the Deccan dacoits are also being fast broken up. We hope the panic, which the *Bombay Gazette* and others helped to create has passed away.

THE ARRIVAL of the musical instruments at Paris presented by Dr. Sourindromohun Tagore has created quite a *furore* there. The *Englishman* says: "The administration of the national Conservatoire formally announced the expected arrival of Raja Sourindromohun Tagore's gift, and the *Figaro* spread the news as of the highest interest to collectors and artists. Whatever may be the practical result, a public spirited act of this sort raises the whole Indian people in the esteem of Europe." And we ought to feel proud of the man, whose laudable efforts tend to raise the whole Indian community in the estimation of the European world.

THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY into Pundit Hur Sahai's case have closed their sittings. A contemporary has received the following telegram on the subject:

President and members of Commission leave Futtehghur to-morrow. Only two witnesses examined to-day for the prosecution. Mr. Watts, Magistrate and Collector, gave evidence regarding the preliminary enquiry which he held at Mr. Saunders' house on the morning the assault was committed. Mr. Watts deposed that, although, at the enquiry Hur Sahai denied having assaulted Mr. Saunders, the Sub Judge begged very hard of the Magistrate to compromise the case by inflicting any fine, he wished so long as the case was not sent to the High Court. Hur Sahai even offered to resign the service and take pension if the Magistrate dealt with the case himself. Mr. Watts said although according to Criminal Procedure, his preliminary enquiry which has been severely denounced by certain High Court Judges was somewhat informal it was held in perfect good faith he believing that as Magistrate of the district he had the powers of Superintendent of Police. Hur Sahai had an opportunity of cross-examining witnesses at the preliminary enquiry but refused to do so. Mr. Dennison's summing up for the prosecution was concise. He maintained that the evidence proved that an assault was committed, that the assault was unprovoked and violent; dwelt upon the high reputation which Mr. Saunders had established during his long career for gentlemanliness and courtesy especially towards Natives; said neither Government nor Mr. Saunders wished to press for undue severity in punishment upon Hur Sahai. They would be satisfied if Mr. Saunders was cleared from the stigma which the case had thrown upon him. Mr. Ross for defence made an able speech stigmatising the evidence as contradictory and exaggerated; denied an unprovoked assault which if committed at all was committed under an apprehension that Mr. Saunders was about to assault Hur Sahai. No witnesses were called for the defence. Mr. Ross left the case in the hands of the Commissioners begging for a verdict somewhat favorable to his client.

MR. C. T. METCALFE has returned to India. He proceeds to Patna to assume charge of the local Magistracy, and in August next, when Mr. Hulliday, the Commissioner, takes furlough, he will we, believe, succeed him.

WE ARE glad to see that Mr. Lalmohun Ghose, the Delegate of the Indian Association, is working in right earnest in England. He should stop there for at least three years in order to see the seeds sown by him grow up.

THERE were 21 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 14th June, of which 51 were from cholera, 4 from small-pox, 56 from fever, 27 from bowel complaints, 2 from accidents, and the rest from other causes. Three children were still-born and three persons died from old age. The mortality among non-Asiatics and mixed races was 15.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications:—1 Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of British India with Foreign Countries and of the Coasting Trade of the several Presidencies and Provinces in the year ending 31st March 1878 Vol. I. Foreign Trade. 2. Introduction to the Annual Accounts of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency and of its chief port and each of its Subordinate Ports for 1878-79. By the Collector of Sea-Customs, Calcutta. 3. Forty-Eighth Annual Report of the District Charitable Society with a list of subscribers and donors &c. 4. Annual Report of the Uttarpara Hitocary Sabha for 1878-79.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

Bombay, 14th June.—A special telegram to the *Times of India* says that the renewed debate on Indian Finance was of immense importance. Mr. Goschen strenuously opposed tampering with the Indian currency. Mr. Gladstone condemned the whole course of the recent repressive measures and fiscal policy, denounced the Press Act, said that saddling India with the Afghan war expenses was unworthy of the greatness of England, and ridiculed Lord Lytton's free trade. He insisted on a reduction of four millions in the expenditure, and urged that the English treasury should control Indian Finance.

London, 15th June.—Negotiations are about to commence at Constantinople by the Powers, which have undertaken to mediate in the Greek frontier question. Lieutenant Hamilton of the Bengal Staff Corps, has been awarded the Victoria Cross. The Financial decree issued by the Khedive, and which caused protest from Germany and other great Powers, has been cancelled.

17th.—The Select Committee on Public Works Expenditure in India for the current financial year has issued its report on Lord Cranbrook's bill relating to the Guaranteed Indian Railway Companies. The report regrets that it was introduced in the form of a private bill, and declares that the present case must not be regarded as a precedent, and recommends that the Boards of the Indian Railways should comprise one Government director who would be solely occupied in duties connected with the railway and be paid by the Railway Company.

18th.—In the House of Commons last night, Mr. Stanhope replying to a question said that the Viceroy had acted strictly within his powers in overruling the objections of his Council to the repeal of the Indian import duties on cotton. The House of Commons agreed without dividing to a motion reducing the maximum number of lashes that can be given in the army to 25.

20th.—The British Government has joined with the French Government in demanding the abdication of the Khedive. In the House of Lords last night Lord Northbrook in contrasting the Indian Budget of 1876 with 1879 complained of remission of Indian Import Duties on the cotton goods but otherwise expressed his approval of the policy of the Government of India. Lord Cranbrook said it was just that the expenses of the Afghan War should be borne by India because it was purely an Indian war. He doubted possibility of economy in Military Staffs, and defended remission of Import Duties on cotton because they were protectionist.

21st.—Advice from Capetown dated the 3rd June, state that the Prince Imperial is dead. During a reconnaissance of the enemy's country on the 1st June, he was surprised and assegaied by Zulus. The British have crossed the Buffalo river and reached Nopalleine. Their advance was to have been continued on the 2nd.

Paris, June 19th.—A Congress of the French Senate and the Chamber of Deputies has been held, at which it was resolved by large majority to amend the constitution, by transferring Senate and the Chamber of Deputies from Versailles to Paris.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 26th Instant at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Action of the Voltaic Current upon the Magnet, Galvometers.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, on Saturday the 28th Instant next, at 4 P. M.

Subject: Iodine.

The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, JUNE 23, 1879.

SIR JOHN STRACHEY'S VINDICATION.

THE cry of breach of faith has proved too much for Sir John Strachey and he has issued his vindication. What does this vindication amount to? Sir John had in the Budget statement of March last announced the disappearance of the Famine Insurance Fund in the following terms: "Although the condition of the finances continues in other respects to be favorable, the fresh fall in the value of silver in relation to gold has, as has been shown, virtually swept away the financial improvement arrived at with so much difficulty. It may be considered that the whole of the new taxation has been swallowed up in the additional charges on account of Loss by Exchange. The net amount yielded by this taxation in the present year was, as has been stated in para. 160, about £971,400, and it is estimated at £1,077,400 for 1879-80. To remit the whole of the amount required to meet the Home Charges in the coming year, it has just been shown that the sum of £1,364,362 would be required in excess of the estimate of last year. The insurance provided against future famine has virtually ceased to exist; and the difficulties in the way of fiscal and commercial and administrative reform have been greatly aggravated. Nor can it be any way assumed that the evil will not continue and go on increasing." Nothing could be more positive than this statement that the Famine Fund has "ceased to exist" and that there was little hope of its revival. It was added in the Budget statement: "Under such circumstances it is extremely difficult to follow any settled financial policy; for the Government cannot even approximately tell what income will be required to meet the necessary expenditure of the State." These statements Sir John Strachey cannot withdraw. But in his vindication he says that the financial statement for the current year "was drawn up under very exceptional circumstances." Of course the circumstances could not but be exceptional, when the pledge of the Government regarding the Famine Fund was broken within the first year of its existence. Sir John pleads *ad misercordiam* that the "Governor General in Council has never swerved from his resolution; he is at this moment as firmly determined as ever to maintain that resolution in all its integrity, and he has, he hopes, succeeded in maintaining it in spite of circumstances altogether beyond his control, and of exceptional and extreme difficulty." Compare these words with those which we have quoted above and let the reader say whether the assertions now made is borne out by the declarations then recorded. Stung by the reproach cast on all sides Sir John says that the Governor General is as firmly resolved as ever to maintain the Famine Fund, but in the Budget statement of March last he claimed special credit for himself for his prophetic vision as to the future of the Famine Fund. In that statement he wrote: "The propriety of the course followed by the Government last year in refusing to constitute any separate Fund in connection with the famine arrangements has thus, it may be added, been justified by the event. Foreseeing the possibility of such a contingency as that which has actually occurred, Sir John Strachey spoke in the Legislative Council on the 9th February 1878 as follows. "Any other decision might," he said: "lead to results probably not contemplated by those who have suggested the establishment of a separate Fund; I mean that this might involve the necessity for imposing fresh taxation." What did this statement signify? Did it shew that the Governor General was as firmly determined as ever to maintain the Famine Insurance Fund? Did it not on the contrary imply that although the Governor General had given a distinct pledge for the "religious" application of the Famine Fund, consisting of the proceeds of fresh taxation, to famine purposes, he (Sir John Strachey) was far wiser than his chief and colleagues, and had foreseen that the fund would be absorbed for other purposes, and that he had therefore foretold that the stability of the fund could not be depended upon? We only wonder how the Governor General in Council can so easily swallow any words which Sir John Strachey may put into their mouths. Yesterday as it were he said that the the Famine fund though "a sacred trust." could not be maintained in the present state of the finances, and to-day he says

that the pledge was quite correct, and that he did mean to fulfil it, and that he is now adopting measures for its due fulfilment. Sir John in his first financial statement had said that our policy was a series of oscillations; whatever might be said of the policy of his predecessors, one thing is clear, this is eminently true of his own policy—it is a series of oscillations and vascillations. He might call them pleasures of imagination, as he did say so, when his first financial statement was attacked by his colleagues, but he forgets that however cheap he may hold his own character for consistency, the Government pays dearly for his playfulness.

In his vindication Sir John Strachey says :

When three months ago, the Budget arrangements for the present year had to be made, the war still continued, and the fall in the exchange with London had become still more serious. Although the help expected from the British Treasury relieved the Government from immediate anxiety on account of the expenses of the war, it was impossible to say how long the war might continue, or what charges it might ultimately entail. The prospect presented by the further diminution of the exchange value of the rupee was, however, a cause of far greater financial apprehension.

It may be assumed that India has now to pay and raise in the year by taxation, on account of the Home charges, a sum exceeding by about £3,000,000 what would have been necessary if the exchange had remained at the rate prevailing before the long standing equllibrium between gold and silver was disturbed. The estimates of the present year were worse by £1,364,000 than they would have been if the exchange could have been taken at the same rate as that taken for 1878-79. This additional charge exceeded by about a quarter of a million the whole sum yielded by the new taxation imposed for the protection of the country against famine. In every other respect the condition of the finances was satisfactory. But for this cause, there would have been, apart from the war, a real surplus, on the estimates of the year, of more than £2,000,000. As matters actually stand, this surplus, after allowing for the l ss of revenue caused by the partial remission of the duties on cotton goods, has been reduced to about £800,000 ; a sum less by £700,000 than the surplus of £1,500,000 required on account of insurance against famine alone ; and less by £1,200,000 than the total surplus of £2,000,000 which the Government of India has repeatedly declared to be required, and which, it believed a year ago, that it had secured.

Again :

It has been shown, in the 10th paragraph of this letter, that the sum of £700,000 must be provided to restore in its integrity the surplus of £1,500,000 required as an insurance against famine. The reductions of expenditure, and the other measures which have already been taken, have more than covered this amount. It may therefore be confidently said that the Government of India has already, without imposing fresh burdens on the people, made provision for securing the full amount of the surplus originally declared necessary for protecting the country against famine, as well as for recouping the loss of revenue caused by the reductions lately made in the duty on cotton goods.

Now let us turn to the financial statement of March last :

Synopsis.

	Accounts, 1877-78. £	1878-79. Regular Estimates. £	1879-80. First Estimates £
Revenue	58,969,301	64,680,000	64,562,000
Expenditure ..	62,512,388	63,380,000	65,957,000
Excess Revenue...	...	1,300,000	..
Excess Expenditure	3,543,087	...	1,395,000
Capital Expenditure on Productive Public Works.	4.791,052	4,599,000	3.500,000
Net Excess Expanditure	8,334,139	3,299,000	4,895,000

There was thus a deficit of £1,395,000 in ordinary income over ordinary expenditure, and of nearly 5 millions including extraordinary expenditure. Again, it was thus stated in paragraph 365 of the March statement :

The deficit thus shown upon the face of the Estimates, after providing £2,000,000 for the expenses of the war in Affghanistan, is £1,395,000. It must, however, as has frequently been pointed out on former occasions, be remembered in estimating the real amount of our annual revenues, that among the receipts there is shown a merely nominal credit on account of the extinct Military Funds. This amounts in the present Estimates to £214,000 and it plainly adds nothing to our actual resources. It must also not be forgotten that the Estimates under Loss by Exchange would have been increased by £189,815, if provision were now being made for the remittance of the whole net current requirements of the Home Treasury during the year. If there had been no war, the surplus shown on the Estimates could have been £605,000. Taking however, into consideration the points just noticed, which cannot easily be neglected if we desire to form a really complete and accurate judgment on the actual financial condition of the country, and making certain allowances on the other side of the account, the Governor General in Council is of opinion that looking only to the normal resources of the year, the real Estimated Surplus would be £813,000.

The surplus here indicated was simply speculative. It was, if we understand it aright, a mere hypothesis. If this had occurred and that did not take place, the surplus would have been so much. Now this speculative surplus is accepted to be positive, and promise again made that the Famine Fund would be maintained intact. Which statement are we to believe, that of March or June? If the former, then the Famine Fund had already disappeared, but if the latter, then why were the public misled in the first instance ? When the declaration was made in March last that the Famine Fund had virtually ceased to exist, there was the speculative surplus of £800,000, in Sir John Strachey's mind's eye. In turning over the kaledeiscope he shews another result. We submit that however Sir John may handle the figures the long holes made in his reputation cannot be mended by mere patches.

THE FURTHER DEBATE ON THE INDIAN BUDGET.

As we mentioned last week there was a further debate in the House of Commons on the Indian Budget. Sir George Campbell resumed the debate. He began by expressing his satisfaction with the statement made by the Under-Secretary of State. He expressed his disappointment that the reduction of civil expenditure to the extent of a quarter of a million would not be effected at once, but gradually in the course of some years to come. He regretted that there should be so much reduction as three quarters of a million in public works—works, which, he said, were carried out for the advantage of the empire. He protested against the Affghan war. After dissecting the several branches of Indian revenue he thus alluded to the protest of the British Indian Association against the reduction of the cotton duties and the absorption of the Famine Fund. He said: "He sympathized very little with the British Indian Association in Bengal, but they certainly had the strongest reason to complain of an unwarrantable breach of faith on the part of the Government of India, in absorbing the additional rate which had been imposed on the land revenue in Bengal for a famine fund in the general administration and defence of the country." Regarding the increased taxation he said : "The Government had also thought it necessary to attempt additional direct taxation. They first tried an income-tax ; but that had been surrendered, and the infinitely worse scheme had been resorted to of a license-tax. In his opinion nothing could be worse or more dangerous in a political point of view." He thought that the Deccan dacoities were in some way traceable to the new system of taxation. He remarked : "He believed the serious disturbances which had occurred in Bombay had entirely arisen from the sense of injustice which that measure had produced in the minds of the people. But the Government had not only imposed a most unpopular tax, they had surrendered the cotton duties, of which no one in India had complained Those duties and the tax on sugar had been surrendered in deference to popular opinion in this country or to the crotchets of the present Finance Minister of India. It might be right or wrong to remit the cotton duties, but when hon. members considered the motions placed on the paper, and the speeches made on one side of the House and the other, as if the remission had taken place in the interest of the people of India, it was difficult for them, like the Roman augurs, to look at one another without smiling. (A laugh.) He believed a well-founded irritation had been created, and was felt largely in India upon this subject at the present moment." He thus commented on the India House expenditure. "One advice he would give to Her Majesty's Government was that if they wished to set an example of economy to India they should begin at home. No doubt, over by far the greater part of the home expenditure Her Majesty's Government had no control. Its amount was only some £275,000, not a large sum to work upon, but nevertheless something could be done. There were some items not fixed by Act of Parliament on which excessive extravagance on the part of the Government was shown. For instance, no fewer than eight holders of some of the highest posts at the India Office had been pensioned off, not under superannuation rules, but under what was called re-arrangement of offices, the fact being that it was thought desirable to promote certain persons, others were dissatisfied and so were allowed to retire, on pensions varying from £733 6s. 8d. to £340. There was no reduction in the expenditure of the office ; on the contrary, there was an increase in the staff." He advised the more extended employment of natives. He said : "He wished to express his entire concurrence in the measure the Government had announced for the reduction of the numbers of the civil servants. By more largely employing natives we should do more justice to them, and by employing fewer Europeans the flow of promotion would be improved in the upper ranks of the service. He did not think, however, that the natives would be very well satisfied if they were not paid as well as Europeans. When he was at the head of the Government of Bengal he endeavoured to substitute cheap native for dear European labour, thinking that he would secure the eternal gratitude of the natives ; but he was never so greatly or continually abused for anything he had done. (A laugh.) They said that if they did the same work they ought to be paid at the same rate." Sir George probably referred here to his scheme of the Native Civil Service, which did not meet with the sympathy of the educated natives, because by reducing pay it tended to lower the *morale* of the subordinate executive service. Its obvious tendency was to keep down the natives as little better than hewers of wood and drawers of water. Sir George concluded by protesting against the negation of the Indian Councils. He said : "Under the present Government the opinions of the Indian Council had been set at nought, and its legitimate functions altogether dispensed with. The result would be that if an indiscreet and unsafe man were sent out as Viceroy there would be no check upon him whatever." Sir George Campbell's speech was thoroughly practical ; we regret that a full report of it has not been given in the newspapers. Mr. Onslow made a few general remarks, chiefly in support of Government. He, however, justly remarked that the Deccan dacoities had not proceeded from a political feeling. He said : "The hon. member for Kirkcaldy said he took a serious view of the disturbances in the Deccan. We all deplored them, but at different times we had riots in different parts of India, and must always expect such riots." Mr. Grant Duff, who began in a rather pompous manner, was not particularly instructive. He said that the financial difficulties of India were not new and need not therefore cause anxiety. He observed : "The Court of Directors lived in a chronic agony about finance, and was in consequence so timid that it often drew down upon its head the thunders of one of the greatest of living orators. Hardly had the Queen's Government taken over the direct management of India than it found that the question of making the two ends meet was one of the gravest with which it had to deal, and it sent to Calcutta, as soon as the fires of the Mutiny had burnt out, the very ablest financier on whom it could lay its hands. Mr. Wilson did great things, but the years from his death to 1869 were no bed of roses for Indian financiers. Then came a period, during which the administration of India was directed by the Duke of Argyll, when the financial question occupied the attention of the authorities, both in England and India, morning, noon, and night, and to so much purpose that, whereas the expenditure of the

year 1868-9 was over £52,000,000, that of the year 1871-72 was under £47,000,000. Part of that reduction was owing to the transfer of £700,000 a year from the shoulders of the Imperial Government to the shoulders of the provinces, but a good deal more than £4,000,000 was *bona fide* reduction." The meaning of all this is that Mr. Grant Duff was then Under-Secretary of State! He then said that the administration of India must be expensive because it was conducted on European principles. He was very strong on this point. He said: "It might,, perhaps, be asked why we should govern on European principles. The best native administrators would tell us that their countrymen did not want our expensive Courts, our education, and all the rest of it. A small revenue might be raised, but the people were not to be teased with taxation, and instead of spending their money on improving India, we might spend it in helping out the English revenue, or on anything we pleased. If we were going to do no better than that, why were we in India at all? If we were not there to give the natives of India what they could by no possibility have given themselves, except after thousands and thousands of years, we had better determine to leave them to their native administrators, telegraphing to Lord Lytton to wind up the concern and come home." We do not object to the introduction of European principles in the system of Indian administration, but what we have said over and over and say again and again, is that the coat should be cut according to the cloth at the disposal of Government. It is all very well to say that India should be raised to the platform of European civilization and improvement, but the people must live before they can enjoy the luxury of European progress. India has made considerable advance in the arts of European civilization, but if she is carried too fast she will break her leg. Compared with the continental countries, the cost of Indian administration is far greater. Mr. Lowe spoke on the currency question. He recommends an extension of the paper currency as the panacea for the exchange difficulty, but Lord George Hamilton well answered him by saying that unless the Government had gold, nobody would believe in the notes representing it. The debate was then adjourned. It was resumed on the 17th instant, a telegraphic summary of which we publish in another column.

THE NEW ARMY COMMISSION AND THE BENGAL GOVERNMENT.

SOME of our contemporaries have been wondering why Sir Ashley Eden, a Civilian, who has not seen war,and who presumably is not much familiar with the details of military administration, has been selected to preside over the new Army Commission. But the reasons are obvious. Sir Ashley Eden has been a staunch advocate of reduction of expenditure. Although he had supported the new scheme of taxation for the formation of the Famine Insurance Fund, he had at the same time boldly declared that the Government would not be true to its sacred charge, if it did not, while imposing additional taxation, simultaneously reduce expenditure. When the Budget for 1878-79 was laid before the Vice-regal Council he opposed the reduction of the cotton duties, as an unreasonable concession to Manchester, and urged the necessity of rigorous economy, particularly in the Army charges. The appointment of such an uncompromising advocate of Army retrenchment to be the President of the Army Commission, cannot but command public confidence. Then Sir Ashley Eden is not a man to give way to cant, superstition or sentiment. His strong common sense, decision of character, single-minded devotion to the interests of India, and thorough knowledge of the country are sufficient guarantee that the question of the reduction of army expenditure will under his presidency receive fair play. Mere military men have prejudices of their own, which they may not easily shake off, but when they will come into contact with a man of Sir Ashley Eden's calibre, vigorous intellect, and unbiassed judgment, they will we make no doubt discuss the question on a broad basis. A contemporary says that the scope of the enquiry of the Commission is very limited,] that it will be restricted to the organization and expenditure of the Native army only. If this is the case, it is to be much regretted, for as Mr. Fawcett pointed out in Parliament, there will be no extensive reduction of the military expenditure without an extensive reform of the present system of Army organization. In other words unless a Local Army be restored to India, she must suffer as the milch-cow of England. But we hope it will be open to the Indian Army Commission to say whether or no the two Presidency Commands should be maintained, and whether or no the extension of the Railway to strategical points does require the location of 62,000 British troops in India.

While the appointment of Sir Ashley Eden to be the President of the Army Commission is a gain to the empire, it is a loss to Bengal. We hope his separation from Bengal is only temporary, for he has just completed half the term of his service, that is to say two and a half years, and has not therefore had time to develope his policy. It is rumoured that both His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Sir Richard Temple are about to retire and that Sir Ashley Eden may go either to Madras or Bombay. Whether Sir Ashley goes to Madras or Bombay, his separation from Bengal will be a loss to her, and in our own selfishness we hope that the rumour may not be true, that his promotion, which we shall be the last persons to grudge, may come after he has completed his services in Bengal. However we might differ in opinion with Sir Ashley on certain points, we make bold to say that no one can deny that he is a man of great ability, strong determination, and high mind, and that he is a sincere friend of the people, and that the premature close of his administration would be a misfortune to Bengal. Sir Stuart Bayley, it is stated, acts for Sir Ashley Eden. We do not understand why Mr. Rivers Thompson has been superseded. Is it on account of his dissent on the cotton duties? It, however, strikes us that the object of the appointment of Sir Stuart Bayley is the restoration of Assam to Bengal. We believe he will act as Lieutenant Governor of Bengal and continue as Chief Commissioner of Assam, just as Sir George Couper is Lieutenant Governor of the North West Provinces and Chief Commissioner of Oudh. Sir Stuart has surely worked up his way to the highest office in Bengal, and barring the priority of claim of Mr. Rivers Thompson, he has certainly the best claims to it. We believe we may rest assured that in his hands there will be no disturbance of the continuity of the policy of Sir Ashley Eden.

THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION IN PARLIAMENT.

WE HAVE much pleasure in giving a prominent insertion to the following letter from Mr. O'Donnell M. P:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT

DEAR SIR,—I enclose the following report made up from *Times* and *Standard*. I was supported by Sir Charles Dilke (Chelse,) Mr. Chamberlain (Birmingham,) Mr. Plimsoll, (Derby,) Mr. Anderson (Glasgow,) Mr. M'Claren, (Edinburgh,) and many other leading Liberals. The Irish members were in Ireland as no Irish business was for discussion. If the Government had afforded an opportunity, about 100 would have supported the censure, but the pressure of Government business forced me either to raise the question then or not at all. India must be better organised before she can be more influential in parliament,

Yours truly,
F. H. O'DONNELL.

THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

On the question of going into Committee of Supply,

Mr. O'Donnell rose to call attention to the reply of the Governor-General of India to a deputation of the British Indian Association, which had petitioned against the financial measures of the Government and its treatment of the vernacular Press. India, as hon. members were aware, had not the advantage of constitutional representation, and the Viceroy ought, therefore, to be doubly careful so to answer deputations as not to discourage them from laying their complaints at the foot of the Throne. Now the Association he had mentioned included the most respectable members of the mercantile community of Bengal, many of the largest landowners, and the most prominent native members of the Indian Bar. Its distinguished loyalty had been commended by successive Governors-General. Yet he was sorry to say, the reply of Lord Lytton to the memorial of that respectable Association conveyed censure in the most biting terms, and on more than one point seemed to impugn the veracity of the deputation. The memorial was a protest against the financial measures of the Government with regard to Afghanistan and the diminution of the cotton duties, and the Viceroy, in reply made many injurious reflections on the personal character and *status* of the members of the deputation, even reminding those of them who were rich that they owed their wealth to the action of the Government. The Viceroy was acting entirely on his own initiative, and by his own power without any active support from his council. He told the deputation their statements were in notorious opposition to the facts. When they pointed to the heavy distress and recent severe famines as an argument in support of their protest, the Viceroy appeared most injudiciously to imagine this reference was intended as an attack upon the Indian Government. The language in which he rebuked the deputation was most unbecoming in a Viceroy. Sneer after sneer, and offence after offence were showered upon the heads of the deputation. The hon. member then proceeded to complain of the treatment which the Indian native Press had received at the hands of the Government, and read numerous extracts to show that the articles which had been made the subject of proceedings under the Vernacular Press Act were legitimate criticisms upon the conduct of the Indian Government instancing the case of a native journal called the *Shome Prokash*, which had adversely commented on the Government policy in Affghanistan. The unfairness and absurdity of that treatment was shown by the fact of another native paper, printed in English, reproducing the same thing with impunity. Conduct of this sort reduced our Government in India to a grinding despotism, equal to anything that was to be found in Russia. The distinctions drawn between native newspapers printed in the vernacular and papers printed in English were not only offensive in themselves, but tended to impress the Indian people with the notion that, as subjects of the Queen, they were denied the rights which were enjoyed by Englishmen, Scotchmen, and Irishmen residing in the same country. He begged to move. "That this House regrets that Lord Lytton and his advisers have shown such unwise disrespect for the sentiments of a vast population which is at the same time deprived of all Constitutional representation, and subject to a harsh and grinding taxation of the most oppressive kind."

Sir D. Wedderburn seconded the motion, observing that it was difficult to exaggerate the painful impression which had been produced in India by the answer of the Governor General to the deputation of the British Indian Association.

P. S.—Most of the London Journals represented in the Gallery of the House are what is technically known as "nobbled by the Government." Hence suppression of facts.

We take from the *Times* the following reply of the Under-Secretary of State:

Mr. E. Stanhope thought the House would regret that the hon. member for Dungarvan had felt it his duty to interpose in the middle of a very important debate on the finances of India the discussion of a question which might have been deferred to a later day. (Hear, hear.) The hon. gentleman, at a single day's notice, and when hon. members had not the official papers before them to come to a proper conclusion on the subject, had moved a vote of censure on the Governor-General of India. In replying to the hon. gentleman he would say that he had no official information on the two points to which the hon. member had referred, and only knew what he had been able to discover regarding them from the newspapers. With respect to the answer given by Lord Lytton to the deputation from the British Indian Association which presented a memorial to him, anybody who read impartially the account given in the Indian papers of the proceedings on the occasion would admit that the memorial was not only full of great misrepresentations, but also of imputations against the motives of the Government of India. The Viceroy addressing the deputation in those circumstances, said:—

"You have attributed to the Government of India views which it has publicly repudiated; you have imputed to the Parliament of England and the Ministers of the Crown satisfied acquiescence in a state of things which they have distinctly condemned; and you have ignored the duty at all times incumbent on Her Majesty's Indian Administration, to act in honest accordance with the principles laid down for the guidance of its action by the authority from which its own is derived. As the representative of the Sovereign of India I regret that such language should have been held to me by the representatives of some of Her Majesty's most favoured Indian subjects, and as the responsible guardian of the general interests of the people of India, I notice with disappointment and surprise that you, who represent to some extent the wealthiest class in India, while deprecating forms of taxation such as the Bengal Land Cesses, which fall mainly on your own class, have not shrunk from advocating and urging on my adoption other forms of taxation which fall almost exclusively on the great body of the poor.

That was a perfectly accurate and just statement of what had been put before Lord Lytton. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the Vernacular Press he did not understand the hon. member to deny that what the Government of India had done was entirely legal. The policy of the Vernacular Press Act was discussed in the House last year. The Act was now in force, and under it proceedings were taken against the newspaper to which the hon. member had alluded. The hon. member had omitted in giving his quotations from the article which appeared in that newspaper the most offensive passage and the one which brought it under the operation of the statute. He would not lend notoriety to the passage in question by reading it to the House; but anybody who fairly took the article as a whole would acknowledge that the Indian Government were perfectly justified in the action they had taken in the matter. The hon. member suggested that the Act had been used to suppress fair criticism upon the Government but that notion could not for an instant be supported. Speaking in reference to the Act at a meeting of the Indian Legislative Council on the 16th of October last Sir A. Arbuthnot said:—

"The Act has so far justified, and, indeed has more than justified, the hope which I ventured to express when it was passed that the more existence of this law would in a great measure suffice to suppress the mischief against which it is aimed and that the actual enforcement of its provisions would be a thing of very rare occurrence. As a matter of fact, seditious and disloyal writing—writing calculated to inflame the minds of the masses and to bring the Government into contempt—has been entirely stopped. At the same time there has been no interference with the legitimate expression

of opinion. The liberty of the Press has not been in any way restricted."

(Hear, hear) The only case in which the Act had been put in force was that to which the hon. member referred. He had made these remarks in justice to the Viceroy, who had been attacked at a moment's notice and he hoped that the House would now pass to the important business which stood before it. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. O'Donnell explained that he had put down his notice about a month ago, and he had brought it on now because it was germane to the subject which stood on the paper for this evening.

The question having been put, the House was cleared for a division. After a few minutes the "Noes" returned from their lobby, but the "Ayes" did not appear.

Mr. O'Donnell speaking from his seat with his hat on, informed the Speaker that there was no teller for the Government.

The Speaker.—I must order that a teller be secured.

The side door of the Aye lobby was unlocked and Sir W. Fraser being called in acted as teller. The numbers were.—

Ayes	...	215
Noes	...	36
Majority...	...	——179

Mr. O'Donnell's motion was therefore rejected.

It is evident that owing to press of business Mr. O'Donnell could not make a full statement of the case, for if he could have gone into the matter fully and quoted the opinions of the Indian Press in support of his statements, which the British Indian Association had lately published, and which had been widely circulated in England, he could have triumphantly proved his case. Mr. Stanhope, the Under-Secretary, as usual with the advocate of a failing cause simply abused the opposite party. He said that the memorial of the British Indian Association on the subject of the cotton duties was not only full of great misrepresentations, but also of imputations against the motives of the Government of India. But the Under-Secretary was prudent enough not to give any proofs. He simply quoted the reply of the Viceroy against which the Hon'ble Member for Dungarvan had appealed to Parliament. Could any thing be more misleading and more absurd than to quote the assertions of the defendant against the plaintiff as conclusive against the latter? But what did Mr. Stanhope care? He had the strong Parliamentary majority, on which the Duke of Argyll had dwelt with such emphasis in the House of Lords, to back him, and as might be expected he carried the day. Only thirty-six members voted for Mr. O'Donnell's motion. But the list includes some of the most independent and influential members of the House. We give their names below:

Anderson, George	Kirk, George Harley
Barclay, James W. (Forfarshire)	20 Lawson, Sir Wilfrid
Barran, John	Leith John Farley
Blake, Thomas	M'Carthy, Justin (Longford)
5 Briggs, William Edward	Macdonald Alexander
Burt. Thomas	M'Kenna, Sir Joseph Neal
Callan, Philip	25 M'Laren, Duncan
Chamberlain, Joseph	Morgan G. Osborne (Denbighsh
Cole, Henry Thomas (Penryn)	O'Conor Denis M. (Sligo Co.
10 Conyngham, Lord F. (Clare)	Parnell Charles Stewart
Courtney, Leonard Henry	Plimsoll Samuel
Dease, Edmund	30 Rylands Peter
Delahuntry. James	Samuelson Henry (Frome)
Dilke, Sir Charles Wentworth	Simon Mr. Serjeant
15 Dillwyn, Lewis Llewelyn	Sullivan Alexander Mr.
Edge, Samuel Rathbone	Waddy Samuel Danks
Gourley, Edward Temperley	35 Whitwell John
Harrison, J. Fortesue (Kilm'k)	Williams Watkin (Denbigh)

Tellers for the Noes Mr. O'Donnell and Sir David Wedderburn.

It will be seen from the above list that some of the best men of the House voted for the motion. There were Mr. Briggs, who though an advocate of the repeal of the cotton duties, did not evidently like the tone of the reply of the Viceroy, Mr. Chamberlain, member for Manchester, whose direct interest in the cause did not bind him to the equity of the motion, Mr. Courteney, once the exponent of the Britsh nation in the columns of the *Times*, Mr. Dease an advanced Liberal, Sir Charles Dilke, distinguished for his cosmopolitan sympathies, Mr. Dillwyn, who lately raised the important issue of the Crown's Prerogative, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, the renowned advocate of the temperance cause and a most liberal-minded and out-spoken man, Mr. Leith, the well known Anglo-Indian Barrister, Sir Joseph Neal, Mr. M'Kenna, Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Parnell, the great Irish leaders, Mr. Plimsoll, the philanthropist, Mr. Rylands. a calm and moderate Home Ruler, and Mr. Sullivan, the editor of the *Irish nation* and one of the thinking and leading men of Ireland. It cannot but afford great satisfaction to the British Indian Association that such good men and true did support them in the House of Commons. Mr. O'Donnell says that about 100 members would have voted for the motion but for the pressure of Government business.

This is the first instance of the attitude of the Viceroy and Governor General of India towards an Indian public body being called into question in the Imperial Parliament. It was not to be expected that the Government would allow such a motion as Mr. O'Donnell had moved to pass. But its moral effects will doubtless be felt through the length and breadth of this country. And all honor to Mr. O'Donnell for the service he has done to India by bringing the deplorable conduct of the Viceroy in this matter before Parliament. Within the short space of time he has been in Parliament he has rendered numerous services to India, not the least of which is the one under comment. He and his Irish contingent on the one side, and Mr. Fawcett and Mr. Gladstone with their following at some intervals on the other have become the protectors of the dumb millions of India. They may not in the present strength of the ministry always command success, but the gratitude of the people of India is not the less due to them for their earnest, disinterested and devoted labours.

REFORM AND RETRENCHMENT.
III.
THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

THE Etcetra Department *alias* the Agricultural Department is at last gone. It was a hobby of Sir John Strachey, and it must have cost him a pang to abolish it. We had strongly objected to the creation of this department as involving useless waste of money, and the working of the department for nearly a decade has fully justified our criticisms. The department has done no practical good to agriculture in this country. Now and then it had put forth some speculative schemes of improvement, but the Government could not spare money for those fancy projects. In the present pressure of retrenchment Sir John Strachey has seen the futility of maintaining this department, and so he has knocked it on the head. But the saving effected we must confess is not adequate. The cost of the department, we quote the financial returns of 1875-76, has been as follows:

REVENUE, AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

	Salaries. Rs.	Rs.
Secretary...	... 55,000	
Deputy Secretary ...	... ...	
Under-Secretary ...	... 15,600	
Assistant Secretary ...	... 11,000	
Inspector General of Forests ...	.. 21,000	
		97,600
Less deduction on account of Civil Service Annuity		2,620
		94,980
Establishment.		
Registrar...	... 8,400	
Clerks	.. 65,970	
Servants	... 1,950	
		76,320
Contingent Charges.		
Section Writing (Extra Copyists)	... 2,400	
Purchase of Books and Publications	... 200	
Service Telegrams	.. 1,800	
Subscription to Newspapers, &c....	.. 420	
Miscellaneous	... 3,000	
Contingent Charges of the Inspr. Genl. of Forests during tour ...	... 3,500	
		11,320
One-third Freight on Europe Stores.		
One-third Freight on Europe Stores	.. 50	
Postage Charges.		50
Purchase of Service Postage Stamps	... 3,000	
Ditto ditto for Inspector General of Forests	100	
		3.100
Total, Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce Department		1,85,770

The work done by this department is again divided between the Financial and Home Departments as before. The saving effected is at present Rs. 50,000 per annum, that is to say Secretary Rs. 42,000 and Registrar Rs. 8,000. It will be observed that the salary of the Secretary was Rs. 50,000, but as Mr. Allan Hume, the Secretary, is appointed Member of the Board of Revenue, North Western Provinces, whose salary is Rs. 42,000, an extra allowance of Rs. 8,000 will be given to him by way of compensation. A further sum of Rs. 40,000 it is stated will be saved in 18 months' time which will make an aggregate of 90,000. There will still remain a balance of about one lakh of Rupees, a good portion of which we think ought to be saved. A question we observe has been raised by some of our contemporaries about the transfer of Mr. Hume to the North Western Provinces, instead of Mr. Bernard. If there is good ground for their suspicion that the object is to provide hereafter for Mr. Batten, Sir John Strachey's brother-in-law, their criticisms are perfectly just. Otherwise we are inclined to think that Mr. Bernard as Secretary has qualities, which many Indian officers cannot lay claim to.

THE SALARIES AND ESTABLISHMENTS OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS.

We do not go with those, who propose to abolish the Councils of Madras and Bombay. These Councils are exceedingly useful institutions in the Indian scheme of administration. As a rule the Presidency Governors are importations from England, and without the aid of experienced local officers as councillors they are sure to go wrong. But we do not understand why the Governors of Madras and Bombay should be paid more than the Lieutenant Governors of Bengal, North Western Provinces and the Punjab. We give below a comparative statement of the pay and allowances of the several Governors and Lieutenant Governors:

1875-76.

MADRAS—	Rs.	BENGAL	Rs.
Governor ...	128,000	Lieutenant Governor	100,000
Staff and Household	96,000	Staff and Household	26,100
Tour expenses ..	4,500	Tour expenses ...	27,000
Total	228,500	Total	153,100
BOMBAY.		N.W.P.	
Governor ...	128,000	Lieutenant Governor	100,000
Staff and Household	71,700	Staff and Household	25,000
Tour and Household expenses ...	90,000	Tour expenses ...	80,000
			205,000
Total	289,700	PUNJAB.	Rs.
		Lieutenant Governor	100,000
		Staff and Household	17,500
		Tour expenses ...	71,100
			188,600

It will be seen from the above that though Bengal is the richest, the most prosperous, the largest in area, and the most advanced in intelligence and public spirit, the head of the administration costs far less. In the first place we see no reason, why the salaries of the Presidency Governors, should not be equalized with those of the Lieutenant Governors, and in the second place why the Private Secretaries to the former should be paid more than those to the latter. Nor do we see any reason why should the Lieutenant Governor of the North Western Provinces and the Punjab spend so much money on tours. The total expenditure on the heads of the local administration of the five provinces given above comes to Rs. 10,64,900, but if it were fixed on the Bengal scale, which is both reasonable and fair, the saving under this single item would come to about three lakhs of rupees per annum. If as we shewed in our last the Marquis of Lorne, the Queen's son-in-law, does not consider it *infra dig* to serve as Governor General of Canada on £10,000 per annum, we do not see why other noblemen or administrators should be unwilling to serve as Presidency Governors of India on the same salary. It is observable that Bengal has a population of 62 millions, a revenue of about 20 crores, and an area of nearly two provinces put together, and if its administration can be carried on successfully by a Lieutenant Governor on Rs. 100,000 per annum, from which is again deducted Rs. 4,000 as contribution to the civil annuity fund, why should not the same salary secure equal administrative ability for the Governments of Madras and Bombay. Surely Sir Richard Temple is as good for Bombay as he was for Bengal, and yet his transfer has involved an extra expenditure to the State of Rs. 28,000 per annum. Sir Charles Trevelyan as Governor of Madras used to draw Rs. 128,000 a year, but he afterwards become Finance Minister of India, and his salary was then Rs. 80,000.

It is also meet that the salaries of the staff of the Governors and Lieutenant Governors should be placed on the same footing.

THE PIONEER ON MR. YULE.

THE PIONEER is again playing the part of a turn-coat. After attacking Sir John Strachey

to its heart's content the *Pi* suddenly expresses contrition in noticing Mr. Yule's speech on the Famine Insurance Fund. It thus begins the article: "Mr. Yule, Chairman of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, has been using bad language about Sir John Strachey. It is our national custom to indulge in very free criticism of our public men; but nevertheless their moral reputation is a matter of national concern. In bureaucratic India, especially, so few public officers attain, as Sir John Strachey has, to fame extending beyond Indian limits, that, while very far from professing admiration for Sir John Strachey's administration of Indian finance, we cannot treat with indifference such an attack upon his public character as we are now reviewing." Indeed! But what has the *Pi* itself been writing lately of Sir John Strachey and his policy? We will give a few extracts at random:

No. 1.—The Secretary of State had repeatedly in answering Manchester deputations, given India the widest assurance that the cotton duties should not be touched till the finances of India were in such a state that they could be remitted without being replaced by fresh taxation. So the authors of the present budget seem to have thought it well to avoid imposing fresh taxation in the same breath by which the cotton duties were remitted. But in borrowing as they have done merely to pay their way render fresh taxation inevitable in the future and Hyndman points this out."

No. 2—Meanwhile, if the part the Government at home has played in this compact with Manchester has been grovelling and ignominious, what language can be applied to the position of the Manchester members prepared to prostitute their parliamentary honor for the outside chance of selling a few more rolls of shirtings. This aspect of the subject has not been dwelt upon sufficiently. Even a Manchester manufacturer on going into Parliament has political predilections, it is to be presumed about great questions as to the part England should play in the world, her policy in Europe, the relative merits of democratic or aristocratic Government at home. But it is openly avowed that whatever in the great question of politics a Manchester member thinks right or wrong he will be prepared to vote a lie—that he thinks it wrong or right—in order to revenge himself on a minister who will not give him the largess he clamour for. A good deal is written now about the degradation of the House of Commons under the influence of an excessively popular franchise, but of what is the bad breeding of the member for Ginx's Baby, or the obstructiveness of wild Irishmen, compared to the utterly dishonourable behaviour of the Lancashire clique?

No. 3.—When the provincial license tax of 1877 became the imperial famine insurance fund of 1878 (subsequently turned to other purposes, and adorned with other names), those who could read the signs of the times became aware that the end was at hand. The provincial finances could not get on without the tax, but there will be no necessity to make the effort, for provincial finances have practically ceased to exist. Decentralisation now possesses only an antiquarian interest. But if the scheme had been carried out to the full intention of its founders, if Local Governments had been really decentralised, if the local revenues of every district, as the Local Cess Act indicates were really spent in the district by a local committee, if the seeds of self government, which Lord Mayo meant to sow had really been put into the ground, and had been growing all these nine years, perhaps the present method of confiscation would have seemed somewhat less simple and easy. Local taxes and cesses would be less capable of sudden diversion to imperial uses if they had ever been applied to the purposes for which they were intended. Without wishing to appear as an advocate for either policy in preference to the other, one may be allowed to suggest that no harm can come of calling things by their right names. Now that decentralisation has gone there can be no object in keeping up the fantastic three-fold distinction between local provincial and imperial revenues, which has embittered the lives of several accountants-general, and has made provincial finances to the general reader a labyrinth and a mystery.

And the same sapient and honest writer now says that "there cannot be much substance in a charge of breach of faith, which upon examination, resolves itself into a technical question of how the public account should be most correctly stated, a question which does not touch the pockets of the people in any way." Again: "It is surely unreasonable to connect the two things and stigmatise the consequences of a phenomenon so entirely beyond the control of the Government as a breach of faith on the part of Sir John Strachey.' When the *Pioneer* itself accused Sir John Strachey of breach of faith, it was reasonable and just, but when another person says the same thing he is unreasonable and unjust. It is amusing to see how the *Pi* changes. Yesterday as it were it was all fury against Sir John, and to-day it is all compassion. There must be some mystery at the bottom of this changed feeling.

In a subsequent article the *Pioneer* recognizes "the lamentable nature of the mistake which was made when the so-called famine insurance was arranged for." It says: "It is needlessly offensive to talk about breach of faith in this connection, and we have already protested against the way the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has allowed its disapproval of what the Finance Member has done to take the form of an attack on his character. But the language with which the famine scheme was introduced in 1878, showed that Sir John Strachey at that time failed to realize the possibilities which alone afforded an intellectual justification of the measure he adopted. The special taxation then imposed was of a kind which would only have been fitted to the special fund idea. In the absence of that, it was ill chosen." Sir John John Strachey had failed, as the *Pioneer* now admits, to realize the conditions of Indian finance, and consequently misled himself and the public. What could be a graver blunder than this? And are the public to blame, if they, having taken Sir John at his word, find themselves sadly disappointed? It is observable that this feeling of disappointment is general both here and in England, and Mr. Yule only gave a pointed expression to that general feeling when he laid his able analysis before the Chamber of Commerce. We confess we have fallen upon strange times. The loyal address of the British Indian Association to the Viceroy was snubbed as impertinent; the sedate minutes of the members of the Governor General's Council on the subject of the cotton duties are characterised by the Secretary of State as "coarse language," and the legitimate, though sharp, criticisms of the President of the Chamber of Commerce are called "bad language." In other words in these days of imperialism independent opinion must be suppressed.

BRITISH BURMAH.

THE rise and progress of British Burmah within the last decade affords a remarkable contrast to what it was in the preceding decade and a half. Originally when the Pegu provinces were acquired they were placed under a military despotism. There were of course the usual parapharnalia of British administration, but the head of the local Government being a soldier, his administrative capacity was not equal to the requirements of the province. Lord Mayo accordingly felt the necessity of a change and so His Lordship appointed Sir Ashley Eden to be the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah. This appointment had an electric effect. Full of vigour and animation Sir Ashley infused a new life into every part of the administrative system in British Burmah. The police, the courts, the prisons, the land, the forests, commerce, manufacturies, education, public health, all received, alike his attention and care. Cultivation extended, trade expanded, and wealth increased; in fact when he left the province, the general opinion was that he left it a Garden of Eden. Mr. Rivers Thomson succeeded and he followed up the lines laid down by his distinguished predecessor. Mr. Aitchison has now succeeded Mr. Thomson, and he too is walking in the footsteps of his predecessors. The elements of progress introduced by Sir Ashley Eden are in full play, and Burmah now vies with the older provinces of British India in prosperity and wealth.

The annual report of British Burmah now before us closes the period of Mr. Rivers Thompson's administration. The present Chief Commissioner in reviewing this report justly remarks: "In population, revenue and material advancement Burma is doubtless far behind many less recently acquired provinces; but the rapidly-increasing wealth and prosperity of the country present one feature, at all events, in which the comparison is clearly in its favour; and the record of its devolpment from year to year may on this ground perhapse claims as attentive a perusal as that of any other part of British India." We will give a few facts illustrative of the rapid advance of British Burmah in material prosperity. The area of land under cultivation during the year was 2,951,265 acres,—an increase of over four per cent. on the previous year. The land revenue assessment rose at the same time to £482,639. Of the whole area, about 86 per cent. is under rice cultivation. The harvest was abundant, notwithstanding much damage done by floods, for late rain enabled a great part of the loss to be repaired by fresh planting. Only about three per cent. of the acreage yielded cotton, tobacco, sugar-cane, and other produce, the rubbee or cold weather crops of India being almost unknown here. Experiments have been made in tea and coffee planting, but with little result, for, although in some parts of the province the soil and climate are no doubt favourable, the difficultiy of obtaining labour has hitherto proved insuperable. Cattle disease, which had been prevalent in the Arakan division in 1876-77, continued in 1877-78; but in the Pegu and Tenasserim divisions there was little or no sickness among the stock. On the whole there was a considerable increase in the number of cattle in the province. The land tax varies from one to six shillings an acre. The produce of an acre of land is from 20 to 80 bushels of rice in the husk, which during the year under review was worth from £5 to £15 per hundred bushels, the price being unusually high. Burmah is rich in forest resources. A Forest Department has been formed in this province the work of which is at present chiefly confined to the formation of reserves and other operations for the conservation and improvement of the existing timber-supplies of the country. Large quantities of timber have nevertheless continued to be extracted from the forests of the province. The out-turn was 39,081 tons of teak and 3,138 tons of other timber in 1877-78, against 46,431 tons of teak and 2,608 tons of other timber in the previous year. The importation of teak from Upper Burma, Siam, and Karennee has not slackened. During the period under review, 211,813 logs or 24 per cent. more than in 1876-77 were brought down the Salween Sittoung and Irrawaddy rivers from beyond the frontier. In mining operations there has been little activity or success during 1877-78. The failure of a Rangoon firm to work the Mergui tin-mines to any advantage was noticed last year. The deposits of coal in the Thayetmyo district again underwent a scientific examination, the result of which was only to confirm the opinion long ago arrived at, that they are of little or no value. In the Akyab district, exploration for petroleum was rewarded by the discovery of a flowing well after borings had been carried to a depth of only 66 feet; and it may be hoped that further prospecting will be vigorously carried on after the profitable issue of this venture. The famine in Madras and a simultaneous scarcity of food in Upper Burma combined during 1877-78 to enhance the price of rice, the chief export of this province, to an unprecedented rate. The quantity exported was at the same time rather greater than in the preceding year. In consequence chiefly of these circumstances, the value of the sea-borne trade of the province was larger than it had ever been before, and, in comparison with the figures of 1876-77, shewed an increase of 21·7 per cent. The value of the imports amounted to £7,812,974, and that of the exports to £7,871,946. Of the whole value of the imports, 44 per cent. comes under the head cotton twist; cotton, silk, and woollen piece-goods constitute 42 per cent, five per cent. under tobacco, and 4½ per cent. under betel-nut. The remainder is distrubuted among a large number of items, of which gunny-bags, machinery, coal, metals, oils, raw silk, sugar and salt are perhaps the principal. The river-borne trade has risen in value from £2,589,824 in 1873-74 to £3,400,089 in 1877-78, or 31 per cent. The iron-horse, one of the visible mainfestations of the avatar of modern civilization, has planted its foot in British Burmah. A Railway has been constructed from Rangoon to Prome, a distance of 163 miles.

We have given a brief account of the material advancement of British Burmah. It is observable that while there has been rapid increase of wealth, it is not accumulated in a few hands. It is spread and distributed among a large portion of the population engaged in production and merchandize. Of course there are some, who have amassed more capital than others, but the mass of the population are not behind-hand in prosperity. The country being agricultural and the population more or less engaged in production, the rise in prices has necessarily benefited the producer, which represents nine-tenths of the community, but all this prosperity is due to British rule. It is the order, tranquility and safety of person and property secured by the British Government, which have imparted a strong impetus to production, trade and accumulation of wealth. If British Burmah could attract more population, it would make still more progress in enterprize and wealth.

MYSORE.

THE series of articles which we lately published in this journal on the reorganization of Mysore, have we are glad to observe, called forth from the Press Commissioner the following statement of measures, which are now being taken by the Chief Commissioner of Mysore with a view to the restoration of the State to the Native Prince :

"The important question of re-organizing the general administrative constitution of Mysore, so that it may be gradually modified and adapted for the Government of His Highness the Maharajah, has for some time been under careful consideration, and the following is a *resume* of the measures which are likely to be adopted for the reduction of establishments and their cost, and for the gradual replacement of European by native officers in the higher departments of the administration Certain essential principles for strict observance by the future rulers of the State in the internal government thereof have also been laid down, with a view to assure the stability of the Maharajah's rule, and the prosperity of his people. The laws and the rules for the transaction of public business, which shall be in force at the time of the transfer of the governing power, are to remain in force until altered by competent authority ; and any material alterations must be made by regular and formal process, with the concurrence of the Government of India Upon this system all assessments of land revenue, and all proprietary rights and tenures acknowledged by the State, will be upheld by the new Government according to their terms ; no demand on account of taxes, and no appropriation of public money will be made except under the regularly constituted authorities previously determined ; while the Maharajah's private income will be kept permanently separate from the revenues of the State. The general authority of the executive, and its relation to the judicial department, will be adjusted in accordance with the system and practice of British India. In short, all such fundamental axioms of Government as are recognized in British India, and have been for many years extended to Mysore, will, with the modifications rendered necessary by the transfer of jurisdiction, continue to be binding upon the administration of His Highness the Maharajah.

In the construction of the administrative machinery of the Government, His Highness will be aided by a Council. It is meant to deal with all the most important administrative measures, with propositions involving reference to the Government of India, and with the nomination to the more responsible officers. In the Revenue Department there will be one commissioner with purely administrative duties. Bangalore and Shimoga will be the two principal districts in the province, and the deputy commissioners in charge of them will have certain general powers of supervision and reference with respect to the district officers in charge of the minor districts in their respective divisions. A European deputy commissioner will, if possible, always be appointed to the Hassan district, where there is a large European community, engaged in coffee plantations. In other respects the position and duties of the district revenue officials will remain unaltered, except that the amildars (or taluk officials) will have smaller power and less judicial work to perform. By these changes it is hoped that this important body of subordinate officials will have more leisure for their ordinary revenue business, and that they will at the same time preserve that influence over, and intimate acquaintance with, the people under their local jurisdictions, which it is so essential for them to possess.

The Judicial Department will be established on the principle of separating judicial from executive work which has already been adopted in Mysore. It is proposed to constitute a High Court, of which the chief judge will be also the chief legislative adviser and councillor of the Maharajah. Each of the High Court Judges, will in turn undertake the civil appellate and sessions work of the head-quarters division in which the court will be situated; and for Bangalore and Shimoga, the two remaining divisions, two separate civil and sessions judges will be appointed. The ordinary magisterial work of each district will be managed by the deputy commissioner, by a judicial assistant with one or more munsiffs for civil work, and by the amildars for petty cases. European magisterial and police agency will be retained for Bangalore.

The Police Department will be revised with the general object of investing the district magistrate with large authority over the police, and of placing him in direct communication with the chief executive Government. The question of reduction in the military establishments of Mysore has to be considered in connection with the police administration of the province, with, at the same time, a due regard for the financial exigencies of the province. It is intended that the three regiments of the Silladar Horse which have recently been reduced, and which at present number in aggregate about 1,000 sabres, shall be maintained intact, but that two out of the four regiments of the Barr Infantry shall be disbanded, and their members drafted into the police force.

"No reduction is proposed in the establishments engaged in the work of the Topographical Survey Department, or in the Survey and Settlement Department, which will be of the highest value to the State by whomsoever administered. The Forest Department will be abolished in Mysore as a separate administrative agency, and will be absorbed into the districts. Three specially trained European conservators will be employed as working officers in the larger forests of the three western districts of the province, under the order of the district officers. The local knowledge of the three trained officers, directed and supplemented by the general experience to be gained from the results of larger forest administration, will furnish all the information and guidance required, and the whole cost of the remainder of the large establishments of this department amounting to nearly Rs. 1,00,000 per annum, will be saved. At the same time, the existing plantations will be maintained, and they will be extended and improved wherever possible.

In the educational establishments the general system which at present exists will be preserved, except that native inspectors will be substituted for the two European inspectors.

In the Jail Administration considerable economies will be effected. The plan of establishing a central jail for the reception of all long term convicts, and of a cheaper system of administration in district jails where only short-term prisoners would be confined, is under consideration.

In the Public Works Department, the budget sanctioned for 1879-80 shows a diminution of nearly three lakhs on the normal expenditure. Under each of the headings of civil buildings, communications, miscellaneous public improvemens, and irrigation works there will be some saving and establishments will be revised. It is probable that the future working of Inam Department will be entirely absorbed in the ordinary district administration. The work of settling boundaries and the areas of inam holdings can only be carried out by the regular survey department; but the investigation of inam tenure falls with the ordinary revenue or jamabandi settlement, and can therefore be easily undertaken by the district officers. An inquiry is being made into the working of the department, in communication with the Inam Superintendent, in order to make the necessary arrangements for the early winding up or transfer of the work.

It is well known that steps have been taken, and are being taken, with a view to replacing the European officers in the commission by natives whenever practicable. It is anticipated that under the Maharajah's administration, as it is proposed to coustitute it, the salaries of the judicial and executive officers employed will be less by about Rs. 1,50,000 than the cost of the present Mysore Commission. No estimate however, has yet been submitted of the total amount which will be saved by reductions in all departments ; so that a complete account of the financial result of the whole re-organization is not yet before the Government of India.

There is one material omission on the above statement, which we hope the Press Commissioner will supply. No mention is made of the terms of the Treaty of transfer, to which we allud ed.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE HOPE of the Napolean dynasty is gone! The Prince Imperial, who volunteered his services to England in the war with the Zulus, has lost his life in a skirmish. What a loss to Empress Eugenie, and to the imperial cause in France! The whole world, which has heard the name of Napoleon, cannot fail to sympathize with the Empress on her irreparable loss.

THE LAST anniversary of the Calcutta Medical College went off with great *eclat*. Dr. Smith read a *recher che* report, and the Very Reverend Archdeacon Baly who presided on the occasion, made a good speech. The remarks by Dr. Smith on native charity and on the progress of scientific education in Bengal were conceived in excellent spirit. We regret we cannot quote them *in extenso* for want of space.

THE GOVERNMENT of Bengal has approved the appointment of Babu Shamachurn Dey by the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta to be their Vice-Chairman. We believe he takes over charge this week, and is now awaiting orders from Simla. We are glad to learn that Mr. Taylor succeeds him. Mr. Taylor is a very able, hard-working and conscientious officer, and like Babu Shamachurn has risen by sheer dint of merit and not by the application of any kind of oil, castor oil, scented oil, flower oil or sweet oil.

WE ARE glad to observe that the fund raised for the now defunct Temple Asylum for the blind, the lame, and incurables, has not been voted away. It strikes us that the fund may with great advantage be made over as a contribution to the Bengal Hostel Fund or to the District Charitable Society. As the bulk of the money has been subscribed by natives, we do not think they at all care for the refund of their subscriptions. Why should not the subscribers be written to with definite proposals for the appropriation of the fund ?

WE HAVE received the follow ing letter from Serampore :

The Municipal Commissioners of Serampore elected, in June 1878, Mr. S. Tremearne as their Vice-chairman. The election was confirmed by the Lieutenant Governor in January 1879, that is 7 months after the election. Four months have now passed since the election has been confirmed and no powers have been entrusted to Mr. Tremearne—though the House Rate Bills are being signed by the Tehsildar in consequence apparently of pressure of work in the hands of the chairman. What a mockery ?

Would that there be no Vice-chairman instead of such a mockery !

Yours truly,
The 21st June 1879. FACT.

NUMEROUS complaints reach us regarding the administration of the Road Cess Fund. In spite of the peremptory orders of Government, the District Collectors as presidents of the District Committees refuse to give the office of Engineer to competent natives. Then the Government itself tries to throw all possible charges upon the Road Cess Fund in order to relieve the proviacial fund. Even the rent of the rooms occupied by the Road Cess establishment is charged, and the privilege of service postage for Road Cess covers has been withdrawn. The roads which the Government used to maintain before have been thrown upon the Road Cess Fund, and thus the bulk of the fund is absorbed. The cess-payers have the mortification to see that their contributions go only to relieve the provincial and imperial funds, while those benefits promised to them by the Duke of Argyll, "immediate, palpable, and substantial," are simply visionary. And now it is proposed that a superintending engineer should be appointed to each Division at a cost of Rs. 23,000 per annum, which must be borne by the Road Cess Fund. This will be a fine opportunity for providing for redundant Public Works Engineers !

THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE of the 11th instant contains the annual report of the Committee for the Zoological Gardens for 1878-79. This is the first time the annual report of the institution is we believe published. The Managing Committee is constituted as follows :

President :
Hon'ble C. T. Buckland, C.S., Member of the Board of Revenue.

Honorary Secretary and Treasurer :
Dr. John Anderson, Superintendent, Indian Museum.

Members :

L. Schwendler, E-q., Superintendent Electrician, Government of India,
Dr. G. King, Superintendent, Royal Botanical Gardens.
C E. Buckland, Esq., C.S., Press Commissioner.
Ross L. Mangles, Esq., V.C., C.S. Commissioner of Presidency Division.
W. Duff Bruce Esq., C.E., Vice-Chairman, Port Commissoiners.
Major R. Sterndale, Vice-Chirman, Calcutta Suburban Municipality.
M. G. Stewart, Esq., Merchant.
A. Wilson, Esq., Merchant.
Nawab Amir Ali Khan, Bahadore.
Rajah Rajendra Lal Mullick, Bahadore.
W. T. Blanford, Esq., F. R. S., President of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.
Captain Waterhouse; Natural History Secretary to the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

It will be seen from the above that out of a body of fourteen four members are non-officialgentlemen, two European merchants and two native gentlemen. When the project of the Gardens was

first put forth by Sir Richard Temple, a prospectus was issued under the signature of his Private Secretary, which contained the following stipulations:

Donors.—Donors of Rs. 10,000 and upwards will be Life Governors of the Gardens. They will belong to the General Council of the Gardens, and large donations will be spent as far as possible on the erection of a complete building in honour of the donor.

Donors of Rs. 5,000 and upwards will be Life Members of the General Council of the Gardens, *i.e.*, will have a voice in their management.

Members.—Membership can also be obtained by the purchase of tickets according to the following scale:—

Personal life tickets and not transferable, Rs. 100. Personal life tickets Rs. 150, transferable when the holder leaves India or Calcutta permanently on payment of a registration fee of Rs. 25 for transfer.

Privileges of Members.—All members will have—(i) free admission on all days except those set apart for the zenanas: (ii) privilege of entrance in private carriages; (iii) one day a week exclusively for Members; (iv) the right to elect annually from among themselves three members to belong to the General Council; (v) facilities for the export and import of animals; (vi) use of the hall, zoological library, and museum.

May we ask whether the stipulations made in Sir Richard Temple's minute have been carried out? Perhaps the Committee of Management represents the General Council, but are all the members named above donors of Rs. 10,000 each? Besides, where are the Life-Governors? Again, have the members been invited to return annually three members to the General Council as promised in the prospectus? As the Government gives a grant for the maintenance of the institution, it has certainly a right to nominate some members to the Council, but why are the rights of donors and members promised in the prospectus so summarily ignored? We are sorry to read that the popularity of the Gardens with the European community is decreasing. But we are glad to learn that the Gardens are not losing their attractions to the native community.

WE HAVE received the following letter in contradiction of another letter, which we published last week anent the last meeting of the Suburban Municipality:

I am surprised at your admitting a letter such as that by the pseudonymous name of "friend" into your issue of Monday last. I was present at the meeting, and can certify that it was not held before 4 P.M., that the matters were very fairly and fully discussed; and that there were independent Commissioners present, one of whom voted, with the Vice-Chairman, against the Chairman and other Commissioners in the second resolution to exempt the Campbell Hospital from house service. Your correspondent implies that the committee was packed. This inuendo is most unfair on Mr. Wells, and is a grave aspersion on other commissioners present. Mr. Wells himself spoke fairly and fully on both questions, stating that he and the Vice-Chairman differed in the second proposition; and I am perfectly satisfied, that he was quite willing to leave either proposition to the sense of the committee. The first proposition was, whether the Municipality would take over the dispensaries and, after argument, it was determined that the Municipality should do so, on condition that the Government continues the same support that it now gives to charitable institutions, except in regard to the supply of medicines. On the second resolution a number of commissioners voted including the Rev. Mr. Ashton, who I saw was present.

You will now see how unfair your "friend's" attack is. He came 20 minutes, or half an hour late. He has not been near us on his own admission, since the 8th of February last, and yet he expects us to wait, cross-legged, until he arrives, on the chance of his coming. I can only add save us from our "friend."

A SUBURBAN COMMISSIONER.

WE REGRET we could not make room last week for want of space the following remarks of Baboo Joykissen Mookerjee, which he was prevented from making at the last annual meeting of the British Indian Association owing to advanced hour:

These are indeed hard times when one's sayings are misinterpreted and misunderstood. We were snubbed the other day by a high authority for raising our voice against the reduction of cotton-duties and not long ago when we protested against the imposition of the Public Works cess on the agricultural community we were told by another high functionary that if we grumbled the Magna charta of the landed interest would be endangered. What we have always sought to do is to bring in all humility to the notice of our rulers the feelings and opinions of the country regarding the legislative and financial measures of Government, and I think Government should look upon these efforts with favour as they enable our rulers to know the opinions and feelings of the people for whose benefit and welfare it is said Government exist. If our rulers knew what the people suffer from the imposition of the License Tax they will, we feel quite sure, be the foremost to seal its doom without delay. In the first place the tax itself is an obnoxious one, but the evil is a great deal aggravated by the way in which it is levied. A class of officers on very low salaries are let loose upon the people and it is no wonder that in preparing lists of assesses they are actuated more by a desire to curry favor with their employers than to do strict justice to the people. I know many instances in which injustice has been done. In many villages persons who sell at their houses or in Bazars mangoes grown by them and those who earn a precarious living by selling fried rice have been compelled to take out licenses. I think an appeal should be made to Government for the purpose of getting justice for these poor people. The reduction of salt duties in Bengal, the abolition of cotton duties, the imposition of the public work cess are also instances of measures which have been carried without the least regard to public feelings. Our endeavour is to supply the State with information of which it stands so much in need. If, however, such representations be not palatable our rulers will fully meet the wishes of the people by appointing consultative bodies in each of the Presidencies. They will not only supply valuable information and collect the opinion of the people anent all fiscal measures, but also point out wasteful expenditure of public funds. I am aware that the Secretary of State and the Government of India have from time to time issued orders for retrenching unnecessary expenses, but we all know that such orders ultimately result in the dismissal of a few clerks and chaprasis and do not touch those sources in which much saving might be effected.

WE PUBLISH in another column an advertizement announcing the establishment of an Electric Light Company. It is, we are told, a branch of the well-known *Societe Generale d'Electricite* of Paris, which has conducted most of the principal operations in Electric Lighting in Paris, London and other cities. In India its operations have been tested in Bombay and Madras; in former it has successfully lighted Wilson's Circus and the workshops of the G. I. P. Railway, and in the latter the People's Garden and the Band Stand. The light would be specially suited for several institutions in this city such as the Eden Gardens, the Hooghly Bridge, the Jetties, Railway sheds, Mills, and Press Houses &c., and being an extremely brilliant and beautiful light is well worthy the attention of wealthy native gentlemen for lighting their mansions and summer houses. Cannot the Mullicks give it a trial at tomorrow's wedding.

WE CONGRATULATE Dr. Shourindromohun Tagore on the fresh honors which have come to him from Europe. The following is a translation of a letter which he has received with the Diploma of ordinary member from the Oriental Academy of Florence. He had been invited to the Congress, which he could not attend, but to which he sent some of his works and the manuscript writings of his forefathers. The letter of the Secretary, the reader will see, is couched in very handsome terms:

Florence, May 21st 1879.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,—In forwarding you the Diploma of an ordinary member of the Oriental Academy of Florence, I have the honor to inform you that you were unanimously elected, in recognition of your eminent services to Oriental studies and of the special interest you have displayed for the development of the same studies in Italy, during the Session of the Fourth Congress of Orientalists.

Happy at the honor I have to be the interpreter of the sentiments of my Orientalist Italian colleagues, I must ask your Excellency to accept the expression of my profound consideration,.

(Sd.) Prof. Angelo DeGubernates,
Secy. Oriental Academy of Florence.

To His Excellency,
Raja Sowrindromohun Tagore, Calcutta.

We are also glad to learn that the Republic of France has appointed Raja Shourindra Mohun Tagore an "Officer of Public Instruction" in France, and a gold palm leaf with ribbon has been forwarded to the Raja as the insignia of the order. Long may our worthy townsman live and enjoy the honors, which have deservedly been bestowed upon him.!

WE ARE SORRY to record the death of Babu Chunder Saikhur Dev, which melancholy event took place at Burdwan on the 11th instant. He was one of the early students of the Hindu College, and was a contemporary with Tarachand Chuckrovarti and Shibchunder Thackoor. After leaving the College he studied hard and had a valuable library of his own. He became the clerk of the late Mr. C. R. Prinsep of the Supreme Court Bar and availed himself of his library in learning civil and criminal law as well as the Hindu law. He also studied Sanskrit and acquired proficiency in Naya and other Darsanas. He was afterwards appointed Deputy Collector, and while performing the duties of that office he studied the revenue law in all its details, and more specially its administration as affecting the condition of the people. He used to exchange notes with another Deputy Collector Babu Russick Krishna Mullick, distinguished for depth of thought, testing the efficacy of every law substantive and adjective by the general principles of equity. Both Babus Chunder and Russick were thoughtful but necessarily slow and consequently perhaps used to receive lots of *takids* for quicker despatch of business. In Government offices, activity wrongly or rightly directed is a great virtue. Babu Chunder Saikhur continued in the office of Deputy Collector for some time. Ill health compelled him to resign the appointment. After leaving the College Chunder with Tarachand was the constant companion of Rammohun Roy. They assisted him in the formation of the Brahmo Samaj and did all they could in the diffuson of monotheism. This lasted for some time. At the instance of Babu Ramgopal Ghose the Society for the Acquisition of General Knowledge was established, which was assisted greatly by Babu Tarachand Chuckravarti and Chunder Sikhur Deb. They also assisted Pearychand Mittra in conducting the *Bengal Spectator*; a diglot publication. When Mr. George Thompson came to Calcutta, there were meetings held at Babu Sreekissen Singh's garden-house at Manicktollah, and at Fouzduree Balakhana, at which Mr. Thompson delivered those thrillingaddresseswhich resulted in the formation of the British Indian Society, of which the Presidents were Messrs. Thompson, Theobald and Ramgopal Ghose successively and Honorary Secretary Babu Pearychand Mittra. The principal object of this Society was the amelioration of the condition of the rural community, and with the view of collecting correct information on the subject, a series of questions in English and Bengali was prepared chiefly by Babu Chunder Saikhur, who evidently brought his special knowledge to bear on this work. A mass of interesting and valuable information was collected and published in the Calcutta newspapers. Based on this information the article of Babu Pearychand Mittra "Zemindar and Ryot" appeared in the *Calcutta Review*, which was brought to the notice of the House of Lords by Lord Albemarle. Babu Chunder Sikhur used to study the drafts of law closely and his valuable notes enabled the British India Society to petition the Government regarding them from time to time. For some years Babu Chunder Saikhur served as Assistant Secretary to the British Indian Association. He was a Pleader of the Sudder Court, and though learned in law he did not prove successful from want of tack. From time to time he also assisted Babu Debendernath Tagore in defending the Sumaj from the attacks of the missionary party. The reply to Dr. Banerjea's article, which was published in the *Calcutta Review*, was we believe written by Babu Chunder Sikhur. In Babu Peary Chand Mittra's Biographical sketch of David Hare a short account of Chunder Sikhur is given. Latterly Babu Chunder Sekur was appointed a member of the Council of the Maharaja of Burdwan, who for some years gave him a pension. Chunder was an unobstrusive, quiet and thoughtful man. He loved his country and he lived to see his countrymen elevated. He was a monotheist and his creed was to love one's own country and to look upon his neighbours as himself.

TELEGRAMS.

(From the Press Commissioner)

Simla, 17th 12h. 15m.—Mr. R. B. Shaw C.I.E. resident at Mandalay has died of rheumatic fever. Colonel Horace Browne has been sent up to officiate as resident temporarily.

18th. 14h. 27m. From Mandalay on the fifteenth the Foreign Minister, Minister of the Interior, and several high officials paid a visit of condolence to the Residency. Mr. Shaw was buried on the 16th at 10 o'clock. The funeral was attended by the Mandalay and Bhamo guards in uniform, and a large number of Europeans and Natives following. An imposing procession and ceremony was arranged by the Burmese Government who have shown sympathy and courtesy throughout.

20th.—The Ameer of Afghanistan has issued a proclamation of which the following is the translation:—Whereas perpetual friendship and peace have been established between the British Government and the Government of Afghanistan, and all disputes and differences between those two Governments have been entirely removed, it is hereby publicly proclaimed that a general amnesty has been granted to those subjects of the Afghan Government, who have held intercourse with British forces during the war and the Afghan Government declares in writing that all its subjects shall be exempt from punishment or molestation covert or overt on account of such intercourse."

21st. 17h. 5m.—Memorial of Condolence on Mr. Shaw's death signed by over a hundred British subjects of Mandalay has been presented for transmission to the Viceroy.

MONEY MARKET.

(*June* 21, 1879.)

GOVERNMENT LOANS.

4	Per Cent. Promissory Notes	Rs.	93	4 *a*	93	8
4½	Per Cent. of 1870 (1885).....	,,	96	0 *a*	96	8
4½	Per Cent. of 1871 (1881).....	,,	95	0 *a*		
4½	Per Cent. of (Trans.) of 1872 (1879)	Reduced to 4	p.	ct.		
4½	Per Cent. of 1878-79 (1893).....	,,	99	2 *a*	99	6
4½	Per Cent. of 1879 (1893) (New loan)	,,	99	2 *a*	99	6

GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES OF 1867.

5	Per Cent for 15 years (1882)	Rs.	100	4 *a*	100	8

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

6	Per Cent. of 1864 (1884) ...	Rs.	106	0 *a*	106	8
6	Per Cent. of 1865 (1885) ...	,,	106	8 *a*	107	0
6	Per Cent. of 1866 (1886) ..	,,	107	0 *a*	108	0
6	Per Cent. of 1867 (1887) ...	,,	108	0 *a*	109	0
6	Per Cent. of 1870 (1890) ..	,,	110	0 *a*	110	8
6	Per Cent. of 1872 (1892) ...	,,	110	8 *a*	111	8
5	Per Cent. of 1878 (1908) ...	,,	99	0 *a*	100	0

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	Rs.	A.	P.
Annund Ram Barooah Esq., C. S. Dinagepore ..	13	4	0
Thakoor Shaheb of Bhownagar	13	4	0
Bombay Fort Improvement Library.....	13	4	0
J. Wilson Esq. Shillong.....	13	4	0
Naini Tal Institute..	7	0	0
Roy Bahadoor Kanyelal Lahore.....	13	4	0
Huridas Beharidas Esq. Wadhwan	3	4	0
A. Narasimiyengar Esq Mysore.....	20	0	0
District Engineer Bhagulpore.....	1	8	0
Baboo Jodoo Krishna Sircar, Gurhwal Estate	10	0	0
,, Samsoondar Das, Chittagong	8	0	0
,, Mohendra Nath Ghosal, Cawnpore.....	6	10	0
,, Rajkristo Pal, Seekoldiah	10	0	0
,, Ram chunder Mookerjee, Mooltan	13	4	0
,, Bhagbat Persad Singh Bankipore.....	3	4	0
,, Surendra Nath Goopta, Sylhet.....	13	4	0
,, Obenash chunder Mittra Seerampore..	15	0	0
,, Mothoora Nath Sen Rajmehal.....	10	0	0
,, Mutty Lal Bhaugulpore	10	0	0
,, Thacoordas Mookerjee Durbhangh..... ..	10	0	0
,, Doorgaprosnno Das Goopta Kalia.....	10	0	0
,, Khetter Chunder chatterjee Debrooghur	20	0	0
,, Doorgadas Sircar Lahore	5	0	0
,, Sarodachurn Gaun Kalygunge	6	10	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*June* 19, 1879.

GENERAL.—Mr. H. L. Dampier, a Member of the Board of Revenue, is allowed furlough for a period of five months and twenty days, under Section 23 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 3rd June 1879.

Mr. T. J. C. Grantf Magistrate and Collector, Beerbhoom, is allowed furlough to Europe for a period of two years, under Section 21 of the Civil Leave Code, together with subsidiary leave for one week, under Section 34 of the Code, with effect from the 1st proximo.

The privilege leave for three months granted to Moulvi Mahomed Abdool Kadir, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pubna, under orders of the 12th February last, is commuted, under Section 16, Supplement F, to the Civil Leave Code, to six months' leave under Section 6 of the Supplement, with effect from the 13th March 1879.

Baboo Sant Prosad, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the Shahabad district.

Mr. H. F. J. Kean, Magistrate and Collector, Monghyr, is allowed leave for five days, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of that granted to him under orders of the 22nd April last.

Mr. H. G. Cooke, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sarun, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo.

Baboo Isser Chunder Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is allowed furlough for one years and nine months, under Section 8, Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Lolit Mohun Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinagepore, is allowed leave for seven days, under Section 10, Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code, in extension of that granted to him under orders of the 10th ultimo.

Baboo Rakhaldas Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the 24-Pergunnahs district.

Baboo Lall Mohun Shome, temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Khoolna, Jessore, is allowed leave for three months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. W. K. Ricketts, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the Nuddea district.

Baboo Shitul Nath Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is allowed leave for one month, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Captain A. E. Gordon, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is allowed leave for three months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the afternoon of the 6th ultimo.

Mr. C. A. S. Bedford, Officiating Assistant Commissioner, Sungoo, is appointed to act temporarily as Deputy Commissioner of the Chittagong Hill Tracts during the absence, on leave, of Captain A. E. Gordon, or until further orders.

Mr. O. B. Wood, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is appointed, in addition to his own duties, to have charge of the Sungoo division of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. C. A. S. Bedford or until further orders.

POLICE.—Mr. W. R. Green, Assistant Superintendent of Police, is transferred to Bhagulpore, with effect from the date on which he was relieved of his appointment as Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Chumparun.

Major R. P. Davis, District Superintendent of Police, Bhagulpore, is allowed leave for three months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect, from the 24th instant.

Mr. W. R. Green, Assistant Superintendent of Police Bhagulpore, is appointed to act as District Superintendent of Police of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Major R. P. Davis, or until further orders.

Mr. H. K. C. Paget, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, City Patna, is transferred to Darjeeling.

Baboo Guddadhur Khan, Assistant Superintendent of Police, 24-Pergunnahs, is transferred to Hooghly.

Mr. D. W. Ritchie, District Superintendent of Police, Fifth Grade, reported his departure from India on furlough on the 16th May 1879.

Mr. A. Blair, District Superintendent of Police, Fourth Grade, reported his departure from India on furlough on the 27th May 1879.

Assistant Surgeon Gopal Chunder Bose, a Supernumerary at the Presidency, is appointed to have temporary charge of the Charitable Dispensary at Durbhunga.

Moulvi Tujummal Hossein, Deputy Superintendent of Vaccination, Darjeeling Circle, is allowed leave for three months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Assistant Surgeon Lall Behary Roy is appointed to be House Physician to the First Physician's Wards, Medical College Hospital, Calcutta, *vice* Assistant Surgeon Bhagabat Chundra Rudra, on leave.

Advertisements.

MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS.

Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vols. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, of extreme rarity together, Rs. 150 separately 30 Rs. each.

Calcutta Review from the commencement 54 Vols. Rs. 150.

Maxmuller's Chips from a German workshop Vol. 4 Rs. 8 Previous volumes may be procured.

Maxmuller's Rig Veda Samhita and Pada Texts without the Commentary of Sayana, 2 Vols. Rs. 24.

Jerdon's Mammals of India a Natural History of all the Animals known to inhabit continental India Rs. 9.

Records of Ancient Sanskrit Literature published by the Government of India. Mr. Rob. Knight's copy Rs. 3.

Dr. R. Mitra's Notice of Sanskrit, M.SS. 8 parts Rs. 6.

KEDAR NATH BANERJEE.
15, Bosepara Lane, Calcutta.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Tenders are invited for the supply of 2 lakhs cubic feet more or less of well pugged and well burnt Jhamma khoa for road repairs, within four months from 1st July next. Copies of specification and conditions of supply can be obtained on application at the Engineer's Office.

Tenders to be submitted not later than the 30th instant, and to be accompanied by a deposit of Rs. 100 as earnest money. Tenders for smaller quantities will also be received.

JAMES KIMBER
Engineer to the Corporation.

Notice.

The infallible Medicine for Leprosy of all kinds is for sale at a reduced price. Apply to Raj Kristo Mookerjea, Belghoriah.

BOSE PRESS.

No. 309, *Bowbazar Street, Calcutta.*

Undertakes to execute printing works in English, Bengali and Nagri on very moderate charges.

G. C. Bose & Co.,—*Managing Proprietors*

INDIAN ELECTRIC LIGHT CO. (LD.)

Mr. Fischer the General Manager in India of the above Company has arrived in Calcutta and will be glad to furnish estimates for and answer any enquiries regarding the use of the Electric Light.

GILLANDERS ARBUTHNOT & CO.
Agents.

GANESA PRESS,

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Right Hon'ble Lord Lawrence, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., & P.C., Chairman.

Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE

SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY,

Held at Edinburgh on Friday 4th April, 1879.

The Directors submitted the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December, 1878.

Life Business.

During the year there were issued 1034 Policies, assuring £1,034,651, the new Premiums on which amount to £33,,022-17-3.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 20 Endowments, were 262 in number, arising under 322 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount, with Bonus additions, to the sum of £220,243-10, after deducing reassurances.

The Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,852,566-11-3, being £140,689-19-8 above what it was on 31st December, 1877. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

Annuity Business.

In the Annuity Department 55 Bonds were issued securing the sum of £2,969-0-6 yearly, and forwhich the Company received the sum of £28,892-9-4.

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House No. 1, Patwar Bagan Lane.
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For further information *vide* Time Tables, dated 23rd May 1879. And apply to undersigned.

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